

THE JOURNAL

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September 3, 2004

Sports Albany, El Cerrito ready to kick off high school football season [C1]

Arts & Leisure 'Donnie Darko' born again as a cult movie [C10]


GREGORY URQUIAGA/STAFF

Warm welcome back to school

BRUNSWIG twirls the jump rope as her daughter Pascale, 7, does her best jumping during the Harding Elementary School Back-To-School Community Picnic on Saturday Aug. 28. More than 120 parents, kids and neighbors came out for the food and Harding Park in El Cerrito.

Albany High sees a crowded but calm start

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — Albany High School opened its doors for the school year Tuesday. At lunch-time, the noise of students outside and the way to relative quiet in the school's hallways, the most sound being that of

teachers lecturing. Students said they were happy to see their friends again after the summer break, though some were surprised at the large number of students who were entering the school.

Tenth-grader Daniel Simonelli said he was amazed at the number of students that crowded the

staircase in the school's main building.

"It's crowded, very crowded," said Mia Price, eating lunch on the front steps of the school's courtyard.

Returning from lunch, freshmen Jamil Ballis-Walker, Frances Ho and Andrew Sparks said they were impressed by how much

bigger the school was than Albany Middle School and liked their new high school freedoms.

The best part was being able to go off campus for lunch, Andrew said. Headphones and cell phones are also allowed, another change from middle school.

See START, Page A9

Librarian closes chapter on career

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — After years of shows and storytelling, children's librarian Paul Rockwell is retiring from the Albany Library Sept. 9.

After cleaning out his desk at the Albany Library, he said that brought a lot of memories. There were puppets he created,

newspaper articles and essays he's published.

Originally a philosophy professor at the Midwestern University in Texas, Rockwell moved to the Bay Area in the mid-1970s. He started working at the San Lorenzo Library in 1981 and then moved onto the Albany Library in 1983.

Rockwell said the Internet and other research technologies have

changed the library but said that fundamentally the library is about bringing children and books together and "making friends for life."

Storytelling, he said was an integral part of that, which he used to connect young children to the beauty of language and the written word.

See ROCKWELL, Page A10



CONTRIBUTED

Paul Rockwell

Day on the green

A THREESOME from the El Cerrito Fire Department plays in the Eighth Annual Dynamo Golf Scramble at the Mira Vista Golf and Country Club in El Cerrito on Aug. 30. From left, engineer Jay Murphy, Fire Captain Hugh Henderson and Battalion Chief Dave Gibson play the picturesque 18th hole. The tournament benefits the David Hunter Memorial Scholarship Fund and the Open House Senior Center Trust Fund.

MARK DUFRERE/STAFF

INSIDE

Life is a Movie

■ Seeing "Alien" again on the big screen leaves Albany writer hungry for more. Page C3

At the Library

■ Sometimes researching a topic can lead to competing versions of the truth. Page A5



Martin Snapp

■ A young activist finds herself in the national spotlight. Page A3

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INFORMATION FOR LIFE

Passions on rezoning as hot as ever

■ After hearing a dozen residents speak Monday, the City Council decided to continue the discussion at the Sept. 7 meeting

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — About 10 months after residents learned the city was looking to rezone San Pablo Avenue and side streets in an effort to attract bigger mixed-use developments, it's clear passions on the topic are hot as ever.

More than 50 residents attended Monday night's City Council meeting, and about a dozen residents spoke to the myriad issues surrounding the potential rezoning of San Pablo Avenue side streets Kains Avenue and Adams Street.

Residents asked the council

to prevent multi-level parking structures from being built on Kains Avenue and Adams Street, decrease height limits on San Pablo Avenue and to support new zoning recommendations hashed out between the planning and zoning commission and residents — which allows for housing, not commercial development, on Kains Avenue and Adams Street.

"I'm just fed up with the perspective of the poor developers," said resident Maureen Crowley. "I don't buy it. I think it's a load of garbage. We have a lot of empty storefronts. Let's develop those first."

Not everyone supported the residents' point of view. Planning and zoning commissioner Evan Flavell said the city should do everything it can to encourage commercial development and

See REZONE, Page A9



JOANNA JHANDA/STAFF

THE FORMER Ellis-Olson Mortuary at 727 San Pablo Ave. in Albany, is the site of a proposed three-story mixed-use complex.

Mixed-use proposal getting another look

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — A proposal to build a massive three-story condominium and retail building at San Pablo Avenue between Portland and Washington avenues will be brought back to the city's planning and zoning commission for approval as early as October following criticisms of the project's design at a recent meeting.

The project would extend from San Pablo Avenue east to Kains Avenue and would include 25 condominiums on the top two floors, and 5,656 square feet of retail or restaurant uses on the first floor along with 72 parking spaces.

It could reach up to 45 feet tall and would be the third mixed-use building on San Pablo Avenue in Albany in recent years.

The building would take over property now occupied by the

former Ellis Olson Mortuary, an adjacent parking lot on San Pablo Avenue and a home and two four-car garages on Kains Avenue.

At Tuesday night's planning and zoning commission meeting, commissioners and several residents had a number of criticisms about the project's design and how it would fit in with the adjacent neighborhood.

Albany planning manager Dave Dowsnell felt the biggest problem was the way the building looked. The plans were unattractive, he said, and he worried about what it would look like once built.

"If you look at it, it looks like two different buildings that have been merged together," Dowsnell said.

"It looks almost like you had

See MIXED, Page A10

(NIGHT RIDDER)

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NEWS BRIEFS

Albany

Give a hand to clean up Albany Beach

An Albany Shoreline clean-up and work day will be held Saturday, Sept. 18, from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Volunteers will collect trash and debris along the shore and assist with cleanup and mulching activities for the Bay Trail Restoration project.

This year marks the 20th Annual Coastal Cleanup for California, a contribution to the International Coastal Cleanup organized by the Ocean Conservancy. All 50 states and more than 100 countries take part in the International Cleanup making this effort the largest marine-related volunteer event in the world.

To participate, meet at the foot of Buchanan Street Extension at Albany Beach. Bring gloves, hat, sunscreen and sturdy shoes. Trash and recycle bags and coffee will be provided.

For more information, call the city's environmental resources hotline at 510-528-5766.

Council to discuss slot machine measure

The Albany City Council will consider taking a position on the state's Proposition 68 at its Tuesday, Sept. 7 meeting. If approved, Prop. 68 would permit up to 3,000 slot machines at the Golden Gate Fields horse racetrack.

Environmental groups, including the Citizens for the Eastshore State Park, are opposing the measure, because they say it would increase traffic and threaten efforts to increase the amount of open space on the waterfront.

The council meeting will be held at 8 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 1000 San Pablo Ave. For more information, call 510-528-5720.

Sept. 15 deadline for comment on project

Residents have until Sept. 15 to comment on a negative declaration Berkeley and Albany intend to file for a Marin Avenue traffic project. The project would decrease the number of traffic lanes from four to three and install bike lanes on Marin Avenue from San Pablo Avenue to The Alameda.

The project calls for a one-year trial phase to allow for the monitoring of the reconfiguration of Marin Avenue in both Albany and Berkeley. Albany officials would then determine whether it's feasible to implement the second phase, which consists of more permanent infrastructure. A negative declaration states the project would have no unmitigable effects on the surrounding area. Both city councils will have to approve the declaration before the project can move forward.

Copies of the negative declaration for public review are available at the community development department at Albany City Hall, 1000 San Pablo Avenue, the Albany Library, 1247 Marin Ave., the Berkeley Office of Transportation, 1947 Center St., Third Floor, and the Berkeley Central Library, 2090 Kittredge St.

There will be meetings about the project on Sept. 23 with the Albany Traffic Commission and Oct. 21 with the Berkeley Transportation Commission. Public hearings with the city councils of both cities will be scheduled for the fall.

For details call the Albany planning department at 510-528-5760 or Berkeley transportation planner Heath Maddox at 510-981-7062.

El Cerrito

'Great Books' sale coming at library

A copy of Roger Tory Peterson's "Audubon's Birds of America" priced at \$75. "The Twentieth Century Art Book," an encyclopedia of 500 modern artists, for \$45. "The Rocky and Bullwinkle Book," for fans of the '60s cartoon show, for \$25.

These and other rare, unusual and collector's books will be featured at the El Cerrito Friends of the Library "Great Books" sale to be held over two weekends, Sept. 18-19 and Sept. 25, at the El Cerrito Library, 6510 Stockton Ave., El Cerrito. The sale will be held in the library parking lot and basement.

With the exception of the collector's items, books will be heavily discounted, with many 50-cent books on the shelves. The sale runs from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 18 and from noon to 5 p.m. Sept. 19. On Saturday, Sept. 25, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., book-lovers can fill a bag with books and pay \$3 for the bag.

A limited number of tapes, CDs, maps, videos and records also will be offered in the sale.

Round table talk on civil liberties set

A round table discussion about how the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks has affected civil liberties will be held Sunday, Sept. 11, at the El Cerrito Library, 6510 Stockton Ave. at 11 a.m. Barbara Zerbe Macnab, chair of the local ACLU chapter, will lead the discussion. For more information, call 510-526-7512.

Meeting to look at school move's impact

The city and the West Contra Costa Unified School District will hold a neighborhood meeting to discuss ways to reduce traffic and congestion associated with the relocation of Kensington Elementary School to the Portola Middle School campus.

The meeting will be held Tuesday, Sept. 7, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Portola Middle School gym, 1021 Navallier Street. City and District officials will be available to discuss traffic impacts, possible traffic mitigation measures and answer questions. For more information, call Karen Pinkos, the assistant to the city manager at 510-215-4302.

Public's design for park to get first reviews

A schematic design for the Baxter Creek restoration project will be brought before the city's design review board and the parks and recreation commission in September, and is scheduled to be considered by the City Council in October, according to Heather Koch, the city's community development analyst.

The creation of the design was the result of resident participation in an Aug. 11 workshop that drew more than 35 people, Koch said. In the hands-on workshop, residents offered ideas for how the site could provide natural and recreational amenities, using pieces of ribbon and paper that represented various elements of the Baxter Creek restoration.

The workshop and subsequent design is part of an effort to restore a portion of Baxter Creek and create a small park at San Pablo and Macdonald avenues.

CPR classes offered at Fire Station 71

The El Cerrito Fire Department is offering adult, child and infant CPR and first aid classes this fall at Fire Station 71, 10900 San Pablo Ave. Space is limited to 15 students per class and priority registration will go to El Cerrito and Kensington residents. The cost is \$20 for CPR and \$40 for CPR/first aid.

CPR classes will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays, Oct. 30 and Nov. 6. A first aid/CPR class will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 13. For more information, call 510-215-4450.

Kensington

Program on history of geisha at library

The Kensington Library will host a program on the history of geisha on Monday, Sept. 13, at 7 p.m. A docent from San Francisco's Asian Art Museum will present a lecture and slideshow of the museum's current exhibit, "Geisha: Beyond the Painted Smile." The program is sponsored by the Friends of the Kensington Library. The library is located at 61 Arlington Ave. For more information, call 510-524-3043.

—Staff reports

ALBANY POLICE REPORTS

Monday, Aug. 23

■ **BURGLARY** — A business on the 600 block of Cleveland Avenue was burglarized during the night.

■ **NO LICENSE** — At about 9 a.m. officers stopped a 1995 Chrysler on the 1100 block of Marin Avenue for a vehicle code violation. The driver, a 22-year-old San Pablo man, was found to be driving without a license and did not have lawful identification.

■ **BUSINESS BREAK-IN** — Over the weekend thieves stole a change box from a business on the 600 block of San Pablo Avenue.

■ **SCOOTER STOLEN** — Thieves stole a handicapped scooter from a resident on the 1000 block of Peralta Avenue while someone from the scooter company was delivering it.

Tuesday, Aug. 24

■ **SATURN LOCATED** — Officers located a green 1992 Saturn on the 1200 block of Dartmouth Street that had been reported as stolen from San Rafael.

■ **BIKE STOLEN** — In the morning a bike was stolen from the rear yard of a home on the 1000 block of Curtis Street. The thief apparently abandoned his/her bike in the front yard.

Wednesday, Aug. 25

■ **TOYOTA PICKUP LOCATED** — At about 9 p.m. officers located a 1986 Toyota pickup near Cleveland and Johnson streets reported as stolen out of San Rafael.

■ **DISORDERLY CONDUCT** — At about 10 p.m. officers responded to the Albany Bowl on the 500 block of San Pablo Avenue on reports of a

fight happening in the pool room area. They arrested a 55-year-old Richmond woman for disorderly conduct. She was cited and transported to a treatment facility.

Friday, Aug. 27

■ **INTOXICATED** — Shortly after midnight officers responded to 535 Pierce St. on reports of a couple fighting in a rear parking lot. Officers arrested a 20-year-old Elk Grove man for disorderly conduct when he was found to be intoxicated.

■ **DUI** — At about 9:30 a.m. officers responded to 555 Pierce St. on reports of a couple arguing. One of the subjects tried to drive away when officers arrived but was apprehended. The 30-year-old Albany man was cited for DUI and hit and run.

■ **SATURN STOLEN** — A white 1993 Saturn was stolen from 555 Pierce St.

Saturday, Aug. 28

■ **RESTAURANT BREAK-IN** — At about 12:30 a.m. officers responded to a burglar alarm at a restaurant on the 800 block of San Pablo Avenue. They did not see anyone in the area.

■ **ATTEMPTED BREAK-IN** — Thieves attempted to pry open the front door of a residence on the 600 block of Madison Street.

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — At about 2 a.m. a resident on the 800 block of Cleveland Avenue reported that a few minutes prior thieves had broken the side window of a black GMC Sonoma and stolen items. The victim was able to give officers a description of the vehicle in which the thief fled.

■ **VEHICLE BREAK-INS** — During

the night five vehicles were broken into while parked at 555 Pierce St.: a gray 1986 Volvo, a white 2001 Ford pickup, a white 1997 Toyota Corolla, a black 1996 Nissan Ultima and a gray 1986 Volvo.

■ **BUSINESS BREAK-IN** — During the night thieves broke into a business on the 1200 block of Solano Avenue and stole a cash register.

■ **PURSE STOLEN** — A Berkeley woman reported her purse was stolen while she was at a restaurant on the 1500 block of Solano Avenue.

■ **PIZZA DELIVERY ROBBERY** — At about 10:30 p.m. three men unsuccessfully attempted to rob a pizza delivery person.

Monday, Aug. 30

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — Items were stolen from a gray Toyota 4-Runner in the 900 block of Ramona Avenue.

■ **BIKE STOLEN** — A bike was stolen from the 900 block of Pomona Avenue.

Summary

During Aug. 22 through Aug. 30 officers towed five cars, responded to eight false alarms, attended to five lost or deceased animals, assisted two people who were locked out of their cars and responded to one report of a barking dog. In the domestic arena, officers assisted with four stand-bys for child custody exchanges, responded to 10 civil disturbances and 161 civil assists. Officers stopped 72 vehicles or persons issuing 27 citations and 45 warnings. Firefighter/paramedics responded to one fire call and eight medical emergencies.

—K. Osborn

EL CERRITO POLICE REPORTS

Friday, Aug. 13

■ **BURGLARY** — A car seat and bicycle were stolen from a garage on the 5500 block of Poinsett Avenue sometime between 6 p.m. on Aug. 13 and 1:30 p.m. on Aug. 15.

Saturday, Aug. 21

■ **VEHICLE BURGLARY** — A window was broken and property stolen from a car on Mooser Lane and Pomona Avenue between 11 a.m. and noon.

■ **ROBBERY** — A 79-year-old woman was robbed on the Ohlone Greenway at Hill Street at around 4:54 p.m. She suffered from head contusions and was transported to Kaiser Hospital. A 20-year-old Richmond man was later chased down and arrested on the east side of the Target parking lot on suspicion of committing the crime.

■ **SHOPLIFTING** — A 21-year-old Oakland woman was arrested on suspicion of shoplifting at Target at 1:30. Police said the woman filled a bag with \$260 worth of clothing and other items and then left without paying.

Sunday, Aug. 22

■ **VEHICLE BURGLARY** — Someone shattered the window of a 1999 Volkswagen and stole two purses from the vehicle sometime between 10 and 10:45 p.m. The crime occurred on the 2600 block of Francisco Way.

■ **VEHICLE RECOVERED** — A stolen 1983 Nissan pickup truck was recovered on the 2600 block of Francisco Way at 11:38 p.m. The vehicle had been stolen in Richmond on Aug. 12.

Monday, Aug. 23

■ **VEHICLES STOLEN** — A man allegedly stole his ex-girlfriend's green in Reno and drove to the El Cerrito Carrow's parking lot, where he met up with her at 4:23 p.m. The man then fled in his ex-girlfriend's Toyota Land Cruiser after seeing a Richmond Police Department vehicle drive by. A police officer recovered the Pontiac and returned it to the man's ex-girlfriend.

Tuesday, Aug. 24

■ **BURGLARY** — Two men were seen fleeing a residential burglary on the 8700 block of Don Carol Drive at 11:09 a.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 25

■ **SHOPLIFTING** — One man was arrested on suspicion of stealing shoes from Copeland's Sports at 2:23 p.m. The man and an accomplice ran out of the store after allegedly grabbing several pairs of shoes. The accomplice was driven away by a third man.

■ **VEHICLE THEFT** — A 1989 Isuzu SUV was stolen from the 2500 block of Carquinez Avenue sometime between midnight and 10:27 a.m.

Friday, Aug. 27

■ **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE** — A 38-year-old El Cerrito man was arrested at 12:17 a.m. on the 1700 block of Liberty Street on suspicion of hitting his wife. The man was booked at the police department on a charge of domestic violence and was transported to the Martinez Jail.

Sunday, Aug. 29

■ **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE** — A 29-year-old Vallejo man was arrested at the Carrow's parking lot on suspicion of hitting his pregnant wife shortly af-

ter 8 p.m. Police said the man began hitting his wife while the two were driving on the freeway. The woman defended herself by spraying her husband with pepper spray. The couple then pulled off the freeway and entered the parking lot. The man was booked at the police department on a charge of domestic violence.

■ **DRUG POSSESSION** — A 20-year-old San Pablo man was arrested on suspicion of possessing rock cocaine after being stopped in his vehi-

cle at Cutting Boulevard and San Pablo Avenue for a traffic violation at 12:15 a.m.

Tuesday, Aug. 30

■ **SHOPLIFTING** — A San Pablo woman was arrested on suspicion of shoplifting vitamins and cosmetics at 6 p.m.

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2-year-old gets involved with political action group

NDY WARHOL SAID everyone would be famous for 15 minutes, but 12-year-old Ilana Wexler of Alameda, fame has lasted a lot longer than that.

With her curly red hair and infectious optimism, she's a dead ringer for Little Orphan Annie, except for one thing: Annie was a young Republican. Ilana is a young Democrat.

She's been more than a month in the spotlight, having brought down the curtain on the Democratic National Convention when she said President Cheney should "come out" because "he said 'I'm a bad word.'"

She's still getting calls from kids all over the country who want to join her political action committee, which she calls "Change.com."

One of them is 12-year-old Anderson of Livermore, who saw Ilana's speech on TV and said to herself, "Wow! That just like me! She wants to make a difference in the world, and she knows what she's talking about."

Ilana, Vivian, and a friend, 12-year-old Mallory of Alameda, on Fourth Street in Berkeley, where they are collecting donations for a project: a national "Name Calling Day" on Sept. 10 when politicians would be asked to say anything mean to each other.

"We're only asking them to do it for 24 hours," said Mallory. "That's not too much to ask, but there's a downside to this new fame, too: She's getting a lot of hate mail."

"We don't let her see them," her dad, Jonathan Wexler, says. "Some of them are pretty nasty. It makes you wonder why she got so worked up about a 12-year-old girl who is just trying to be a good citizen."

Ilana got her prime time slot on the convention thanks to her dad, Heinz Kerry, who met during the primaries and immediately took a shine to her. Ilana reciprocates.

She's the kindest, sweetest in the world," says Ilana. "When she's talking to you, it's like there's nobody else in the whole universe."

The only hitch to Ilana's speaking slot was that she had a hard act to follow: the electrifying keynote speaker, Barack Obama.

"He was coming off the stage as I was coming on, and he said, 'Good luck.' I said, 'Thanks.' And he said, 'Toodles!'"

(I don't know about you, but I'll never be able to look at Obama again without picturing him saying, "Toodles!" — just as I can never look at Hillary Clinton without picturing her saying her favorite phrase, "Okey-dokey, artichoke!") Ilana was nervous as could be before the speech. "I was chewing my fingernails down to the bone." But as soon as she stepped up to the microphone, her nerves vanished.

"It was like the whole audience was under a woolen blanket with me. It felt so cozy, I was completely relaxed."

After she finished the speech, the first person she ran into when she came offstage was Heinz Kerry, who threw her arms around her and wept with pride.

Now there's talk of Ilana joining Heinz Kerry on the campaign trail this fall, campaigning in the swing states.

"We hate to have her miss school," says her dad, "but this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity."

Ilana will be old enough to run for president herself in 2028. But her ambition isn't to be the first woman president.

Says she: "I want to be the second."

Next week: 12-year-old Doug Hartman of Berkeley reports on the Republican convention.

Reach Martin Snapp at 510-262-2787 or email msnapp@cctimes.com.



MARTIN SNAPP
Snapp Shots

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FACES & PLACES



THE EL CERRITO Soccer Club Stingrays prepare with team coaches for a match in Alameda in the 2003-04 season.

El Cerrito Soccer Club to celebrate opening day

MORE THAN 350 youngsters have signed up to play in the El Cerrito Soccer Club, and you can find many if not all of them this Saturday at Cerrito Vista Park, where they will have their opening-day parade at 9 a.m.

The kids will be in their uniforms, march around the park and then engage in some friendly scrimmages.

President Manish Doshi says in an e-mail that it's "gratifying" to see so many kids playing soccer. The game, he adds, "is an ideal introduction to team sports for kids, great for older kids, and it wears them out so they go to bed at a reasonable hour!"

The club is now looking for community sponsors to help maintain fields and equipment, and so that financially strapped families can still be able to let their children play.

For more information on El Cerrito Soccer Club, visit <http://www.ecscc.org> or contact Steve Lipson at 510-237-8674 or slipson@comcast.com.

Kensington butcher became a cut above the rest

WHEN I WAS A LITTLE GIRL, the go-to guy for meat and poultry in our neighborhood was Carl the Butcher, as much of a name for him as I ever knew.

I loved to see him behind the counter, those clean hands scooping up ground beef or using an evil-looking hook to grab sliced liver, wrapping it in butcher paper and slapping on some tape.

It was efficiently, effortlessly done, all accompanied by chatter about the weather, baseball, the price of chicken Mama always bought whole, then cut up for frying, when my brother would be home from the Air Force or how my grandmother was doing.

I thought Carl was an uncle or some other distant member of my big family.

Customers used to bond with merchants in my youth — Mr. Holmes, the insurance man, and Mrs. Silvers at the ice cream store.

That's the kind of relationship customers at Arlington Meats in Young's Kensington Market developed with Gordy Napolitano, who took up the reins there 40 years ago. He was following in the footsteps of two uncles and his father, who opened the Arlington Avenue meat market in 1938.

At the age of 65, Napolitano started his retirement Saturday, saying his goodbyes to longtime customers.

"After this many years, it's hard to leave," he said by phone Friday. "The customers are more like your friends, all real, real nice people."

"It's been a pleasure coming to work and seeing everybody, some of them almost every day."

One of the people Napolitano saw almost daily is Samantha Towne, receptionist at Marvin



MARY REILEY
Our Neighbors

Gardens next door.

She started buying his sandwiches two years ago.

"If it weren't for Gordy, I wouldn't know how to cook a roast," she said by phone Tuesday.

"I'll miss his smiling face," she said. "Gordy always had a kind word and smile for everybody who walked into that store. We're going to miss him a lot."

The new owners, Larry and Jessica Lefebvre, plan to have the meat counter closed through this week while they make a few changes, such as adding organic meats and seafood. It will re-open as Kensington Fine Foods, Larry Lefebvre said in a phone conversation.

"Kensington is a family-oriented area, and we want to continue the family aspect of the business," he said.

As a chef, previously at Noho Star Restaurant in Manhattan and Ginger Island in Berkeley, Lefebvre hopes to add prepared meals-to-go in the near future.

Half a century

When then-Brookside Hospital in San Pablo opened in 1954, Alberta Weaver of El Cerrito attended a meeting for anyone interested in volunteering there. "I always wanted to work in a hospital," she told me by phone Tuesday.

Starting as a member of the Brookside Service League, she stayed when the group's name changed with the hospital's. It is now known as the Doctors Med-



GORDY NAPOLITANO, who is retiring, shows his skill at preparing chickens for barbecue at Arlington Meats on Saturday in Kensington. Napolitano, 65, took up the reins 40 years ago, following in the footsteps of two uncles and his father.

ical Center Auxiliary.

On Friday, Weaver received a 50-year pin to recognize her service to the medical facility and the people who use it.

Over the years, she has escorted countless patients to or from their rooms when they arrived or were discharged. Now, she takes phone calls at the desk in the lobby.

"She is dependable," said the auxiliary president, Lucille

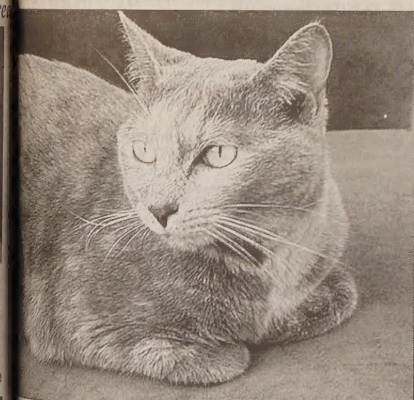
Owens of Walnut Creek.

Weaver's philosophy toward her job is simple. "Be as nice as you can," she said.

Anyone interested in finding out more about being a volunteer may call the auxiliary office at 510-970-5334.

Mary Reiley's column runs occasionally in the Journal. Reach her at 510-262-2784 or mreiley@cctimes.com.

OF THE WEEK



BERKELEY EAST BAY HUMANE SOCIETY

A 4-year-old, petite short-haired dilute tortoiseshell. She's "a girl who will solicit your attention with a polite 'meow' and greets people to other cats," say staffers at the Berkeley East Bay Humane Society, where Jedi may be available for adoption.

BERKELEY — The following cats may be available for adoption at the Berkeley East Bay Humane Society.

Female lab mix, 11 months; male Chesapeake Bay retriever mix, 1 year; female rottweiler mix, 3 years; border collie mix, 3 years; female Dalmatian/Australian cattle dog mix, 5 months; female border collie/basset mix, 7 months; male Chihuahua, 11 months; female pit bull/terrier mix, 2 years; male pit bull mix, 2 years; female collie, 3 years; German shepherd mix, 2 years.

Female black and white, 1 year; male black and white, 1 year; male black and white, 1 year; male black and white, 1 year; male black and white, 1 year.

Adoption fee: cats \$100; dogs \$125 — including spaying/neutering and age-appropriate shots. There is an overnight hold period. The Berkeley East Bay Humane Society is located at 2700 Ninth St., Berkeley. Its hours are 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. Information: www.berkeleyhumane.org or call 510-845-7735.

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THE JOURNAL

"... were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate to prefer the latter."

— Thomas Jefferson

EDITORIAL

Longer parking times would help Albany

ANYONE WHO SHOPS, dines or just strolls (with a small 's') along Solano Avenue knows that the parking bargains are on the Albany stretch of that thoroughfare.

Unless one's health doesn't allow much walking, it's almost irresistible to park in one of Albany's free spaces to avoid the Berkeley meters.

Besides warming the hearts of the frugal, the free parking on Solano Avenue in Albany adds to the comforting, small-town ambience of the city. Walking down San Pablo Avenue just doesn't give one the same feeling that you get just by making a quick turn on Solano.

The 60-minute limit, however, isn't a comfort. Those who might link errands and combine, say, a haircut appointment with a stop for lunch know they'll be there more than an hour.

The choice then becomes skipping one or the other, moving one's car, or gambling on a ticket.

On Tuesday, the Albany City Council will consider a proposal to increase those parking limits to 90 minutes, with 20-minute zones placed near businesses whose customers drop in for just a few minutes.

We would encourage the council to approve the proposal.

Small business owners have plenty of obstacles to contend with already. They are surrounded by big discount stores with their economies of scale — including large parking lots with no time limits.

Most of them already are doing what small business owners have traditionally done to attract and keep customers: emphasize service, personal attention, quality goods and unique atmosphere.

But it's not a help to have customers under the gun, and possibly staying away because they have to leave a parking space.

This obstacle is one that's easy to fix, and we think it would be wise to fix it.

Many students are now Ready to Learn — thanks!

THE JOURNAL and other Hills Newspapers publications, as well as the Contra Costa and West County Times, are grateful for all the generous donations of school supplies and financial support received over the past few weeks.

The piles were robust. The backpacks were colorful.

The extra supplies were plentiful. And the students in need of these materials were many.

We understand that giving generously is not easy, at times.

But, those readers who gave, can be assured that these supplies and other donations are being put to good use by Alameda and Contra Costa County kids who would go without them otherwise.

We look forward to serving the community — and working with residents — again next year for the next successful Ready to Learn project.

YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

House of Representatives

Barbara Lee: (D-9th District: Albany, Berkeley, most of Oakland) 414 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515, 202-225-2661. Fax: 202-225-9817; 1301 Clay St., Ste. 1000N, Oakland, CA 94612, 510-763-0370. Fax: 510-763-6538. E-mail: barbara.lee@mail.house.gov.

Ellen Tauscher: (D-10th District, El Cerrito, Kensington) 2121 N. California Blvd., Suite 555, Walnut Creek, CA 94596 925-932-8899 or 1034 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515; 202-225-1880. E-mail through www.house.gov/tauscher

State Senate

Don Perata: (D-9th District: Albany, Berkeley) State Capitol, Room 4061, Sacramento, CA 95814, 916-445-6577. Fax: 916-327-1997; 1515 Clay St., No. 2202, Oakland, CA 94612, 510-286-1333. Fax: 510-286-3885. E-mail: senator.perata@sen.ca.gov.

Tom Torlakson: (D-7th District: El Cerrito, Kensington) 2801 Concord Blvd., Concord CA 94519; 800-859-9900 or State Capitol, Room 2068, Sacramento CA 95814; 916-445-6083. E-mail: senator.torlakson@sen.ca.gov

Assembly

Loni Hancock: (D-14th District: Albany, Berkeley, El Cerrito, El Sobrante, Emeryville, Kensington, Richmond, San Pablo, North and West Oakland) State Capitol, P.O. Box 942849, Sacramento, CA 94249, 916-319-2014. Fax: 916-319-2114; 918 Parker St., Ste. A13, Berkeley, CA 94710, 510-540-3660; Fax: 510-540-3655; 712 El Cerrito Plaza, El Cerrito, CA 94530, 510-559-1406. Fax: 510-559-1478

County Supervisors

John Gioia: (1st District) 11780 San Pablo Ave., Suite D, El Cerrito, CA 94530, 510-374-3231. Fax: 510-374-

MEETING

WHAT: Albany City Council

WHEN: 8 p.m.

WHERE: City Hall Council Chambers, 1000 San Pablo Ave., Albany

ARE YOU JUST GOING TO LIE THERE ALL DAY?



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Maintaining Main Street

Small, independently-owned-and-operated businesses are in trouble. Why? They are being overrun by big-box malls which, among other advantages, offer all-day free parking.

Albany is known for our small-town shopping district, with unique stores and restaurants. It is the closest thing we have in the East Bay to Main Street U.S.A. Yet every month, another business disappears. Why? In addition to competition from parking lot malls, north and south, and an unrelenting recession, parking limits make it very difficult for shoppers and diners to come to town and do more than one thing.

The Albany City Council will consider a proposal endorsed by the Traffic and Safety Commission to increase parking limits on Solano and San Pablo Avenues from 60 to 90 minutes. Six or eight additional 20-minute parking zones will also be located near businesses that depend upon quick turnover.

Ninety-minute parking will make it possible for people to enjoy a leisurely meal and go shop at one of our charming boutiques. It will also encourage more retail shops to open on both avenues.

Those who support small businesses and longer parking limits in Albany are encouraged to attend the City Council meeting Tuesday, Sept. 7, beginning at 8 p.m. at City Hall. If you cannot, please send a letter or e-mail to City Hall, 1000 San Pablo Avenue, Albany, 94706, or e-mail cityhall@albanyca.org. Please address correspondence to: "Members of the City Council."

James Carter
Albany

James Carter is the executive director of the Albany Chamber of Commerce.

So, what's fair?

A recent letter addressed the ridiculous state of the income tax by calling for a "fair" tax. This was defined as either a flat income-tax rate or a national sales tax.

The word "fair" is often used by politicians pushing for another way to take our earnings. I submit that a better word would be "correct," which would get a proper analysis going.

Is it correct to take more and more of individual earnings for so-called societal purposes? For those who favor the sales tax, recall that its rate began in California at 1.5 percent and is now 8.5 percent where I live.

What is the likelihood that the original rate of a national sales tax would stay at its beginning level? The flat income tax provides the same danger and makes little distinction between large and modest earnings.

Both of these proposals ignore a most important fact. Our society, via population growth and increased economic activity, increases the demand for the limited amount of land sites. Basic economics teaches that if a supply is fixed and if demand increases, the price of the demanded thing will rise.

The system we have in place allows that increase to fall to private companies and individuals. Since those beneficiaries did nothing to produce the increase, does that seem correct... or even "fair"?

Instead of dreaming up new ways to punish individuals for working hard and, well, for putting up good buildings, we need to recover the values created by the society via a tax on land values.

George Amberg
El Cerrito

Unfinished plaza

Has anyone else noticed that the El Cerrito Plaza is still unfinished? Behind Copeland's, there is still a section of the parking lot fenced off with dirt and garbage all around.

Who signed off on this?

Craig Westbrooke
El Cerrito

Flawed deal

What often goes unreported is that the Lytton Tribe was to move outside of its historic area by Sonoma County. As a condition of regaining federal recognition and the right to basic services, a settlement agreement was signed with that county that effectively exported any casino plans elsewhere.

Other tribes that are not barred from their homelands, should not and will not get a free pass to Richmond or West Oakland. The initial agreement with Sonoma County is the origin of the San Pablo controversy and all the spin-off effects, not Proposition 1A or Rep. George Miller. For some unexplained reason, this is usually ignored by the press and envious tribes.

The casino should only develop in a way that can be sustained by the surrounding roads and services, as required in the compact. And the other tribes are free to develop closer to home.

Brian Campbell
El Cerrito

A better alternative

I read the letter to the editor falsely accusing Citizens for the Eastshore State Park (CESP) and the Sierra Club of supporting development in wetlands and creeks in Albany.

The letter writer's true purpose appears to be to promote two pro-development candidates (Alan Riffer and Jewel Okawachi) for the Albany City Council. The other four candidates want the park with very limited development on the east side, away from the shore (Brian Parker, Farid Javandani, Bob Lieber, Richard Cross).

For those unfamiliar with the issues, CESP, Sierra Club and my organization, Citizens for the Albany Shoreline, promote shoreline park. The letter writer and others who oppose this idea want shoreline development.

Currently, most of the Albany waterfront is owned by the racetrack. CESP and the Sierra Club have put forth a concept plan that places the vast majority of the racetrack lands (about 85 percent) into the Eastshore State Park, if the racetrack leaves Albany.

Under their suggestion, modest development would be allowed away from the shore, nearer to the freeway, but never in wetlands, habitat or creek. This development would increase (possibly double) the income Albany now gets from the waterfront, while providing expanded

beach, habitat and park.

Dann is the co-chairperson of Citizens for the Albany Shoreline.

Focus on Albany issues

It's election time and accusations are flying.

Albany's City Council election is a hot issue — shoreline development, allies of pro-development candidates written letters attacking the Sierra Club and others for our Albany County Forum on Shoreline Development. Important to set the record straight.

The Sierra Club sponsored a forum around the Bay — and particularly about the future of the Albany shoreline which already has racetrack gambling. Although this was an issue-oriented event, not a candidate forum, Albany candidates were invited to speak. All but one, I announced she was not of town.

The Sierra Club supports park open space, with modest development to replace racetrack revenue when the leaves Albany. Our concept envisions development away from the shoreline nearer the freeway.

The Sierra Club has endorsed two candidates we believe would advance the vision: Brian Parker and Robert Leiber. Parker and Leiber support a shoreline park and moderate development to meet local needs. The Sierra Club did not announce its endorsements at the forum because it was about issues, not candidates.

With so much at stake this fall, all candidates would do well to focus on issues.

Jonna Papaefthimiou

Papaefthimiou, the Bay Area Sierra Club conservation manager, represents the Sierra Club in West County.

Abusing power

Several months ago, the California Supreme Court, in "Marriage LaMusga," modified its draconian decision of several years ago ("Burgess") lightening the burden of "non-custodial parents" (parents with joint custody) with less than 50 percent of the time) who "custodial parent" attempts to move with the child, thus making joint custody difficult or impossible.

LaMusga ruled a non-custodial parent could ask for a determination of custody damage to a child faced with such a situation before the custodial parent departs with the child, such determination allowed under Burgess.

Very recently, however, Sen. John Ton has taken a bill (SB730), relating to financial matters and state contracts, completely "gutted" it, replacing it with a bill that will "abrogate" LaMusga, allow a parent to remove a child from the presence of a dedicated co-parent in a joint custody situation — essentially, fettered by the law.

There's abundant evidence in the psychological literature that such manipulations are detrimental to children. The Supreme Court appears to have recognized this. To have a powerful legislative manipulation such as Burgess be overturned, something that needs to be stopped.

Please write your state legislator, Burton, telling them what you think of these machinations.

Dr. Robert A. Fink is the president of California Family Ents United, Inc.

HOW TO REACH US

Letters to the editor reflect the opinion of the writer. Letters must include your first and last name, address and daytime phone number. All letters are subject to verification. All letters are subject to editing for brevity and style. Not all letters may be published.

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Albany musician's career hits high note

WHEN, NEXT MARCH, the San Francisco Symphony Orchestra performs John Thow's Concerto for English Horn and Orchestra, it will be one of the peaks of Thow's distinguished career. The concerto was commissioned by the orchestra, one of several such commissions he has received.

"I have been very lucky in my musical career," Thow tells us, "and I have worked very hard. It is work I love and that is important."

That it has been very hard work and most rewarding is shown by his entire career. From his earliest school days in Ventura, he has known that music was most important to him, and would be his career.

"It is a little strange," Thow says, "because no one else in my family was particularly musical."

But his family recognized his interest and love of music and helped him foster it. Then he remembers, "I did have one uncle, whom I have never met, who was a trumpeter in Lawrence Welk's orchestra, and was very popular with Welk fans."



CLARA-RAE GENSER
Community Folk

He also discovered, on the Internet, that he had a great-grandfather who was a famous bagpipe maker in Scotland.

John Thow studied harmony, composition, the piano and the flute in his early years, receiving the Santa Barbara Symphony Young Artist Award when he was only 17 years old. Weighing the educational opportunities carefully, he chose to attend the University of Southern California, graduating magna cum laude.

"I had a fantastic education," he notes. "And when I then went to Harvard I found that I was way ahead of what they were teaching."

A Fulbright fellowship took him to Italy, where he studied with Luciano Berio in Rome and Franco Donatoni at the Accademia Chigiana in Siena. He returned to Italy under Har-

vard travel grants and the Rome Prize Fellowship in composition to continue his studies with Berio, a prominent Italian composer who died only about a year ago.

"He was a great influence on me," he says, and "he supported me in my work."

He spent about three years in Italy, even teaching there, before returning to the United States to teach at Boston University and at Harvard.

"Making a living and doing what you like best to do are often different things. I have been lucky to have both simultaneously, in music."

Thow joined the music faculty at UC Berkeley, and has been there for 23 years. His wife, Peggy, whom he met in Los Angeles, was from Northern California and delighted to return here. They moved to Albany for the schools for their two daughters, Diana and Caroline.

John Thow has received more prestigious awards and grants than I can list here. One of the latest was an Academy Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, in 1994; a Newly Published

Musica Award, National Flute Association twice, in 1997 and 2001; and Humanities Research fellowships from Cal three times during his long career there.

Thow has been recorded several times, and was kind enough to give me two of his CDs, and I listened to his music with delight. The Concerto for English Horn and Orchestra is to be recorded during the March concert. He also has radio recordings. The list of his commissioned works takes up a whole page, and includes orchestras and musical organizations from all over the country, including the Lindsay String Quartet of Sheffield, England, for a New Work for performance in their U.S. tour in 2004.

Widely recognized and appreciated for his musical abilities, John Thow is also a delightful person to know and to chat with.

Tips on people who are doing interesting things in Albany, El Cerrito or Kensington? Let Clara-Rae Genser know at 510-525-4585 or crgenser@aol.com.

SENIOR CALENDAR

Albany

Albany Senior Center — 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, 846 Masonic Ave. Senior issues support group begins Thursday and continues on subsequent Thursdays; \$15. Mercy Brown Bag today. 510-524-9122.

Berkeley

Berkeley Richmond Jewish Community Center — 9 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays, 1414 Walnut St. 510-848-0237.

North Berkeley Senior Center — 8 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays, 1901 Hearst Ave. Storytelling recruitment workshop will be Tuesday. 510-981-5190.

South Berkeley Senior Center — 8 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays, 2939 Ellis St. Mercy Brown Bag today. 510-981-5170.

St. John's Prime Timers — 9 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Tuesdays, 2727 College Ave. Tuesday, scuba diver, Carl Arnoult will show underwater slides of coral reefs around the world and birthdays will be celebrated. 510-845-6830.

El Cerrito

St. John's Senior Center — 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Tuesdays, 6500 Gladys Ave. Deborah Bass will speak on the West Nile virus and rodent control on Tuesday. 510-237-3808.

The Open House — 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Fridays, 6500 Stockton Ave. Writing and language programs and computer

classes. 510-215-4340.

El Sobrante

St. Callistus Senior Activity Center — 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Mondays at 3580 San Pablo Dam Road. The center will be closed for Labor Day. 510-525-0764.

Women's Fellowship of the Salvation Army — 9:30 a.m.-noon Wednesdays, 4600 Appian Way. 510-262-0582.

Richmond

AARP, Chapter 3026 — Noon Sept. 10 at the Moose Lodge, 13233 San Pablo Ave. Doors open 11 a.m. for registration and trip sign-ups. Bingo and refreshments will follow meeting. 510-215-1113.

Senior Adult Activity Center — 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Tuesdays at First Presbyterian Church, 34th Street and Barrett Avenue. Birthdays will be celebrated Tuesday. 510-234-0954.

Richmond Senior Drop-In Center — 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. weekdays, 2525 Macdonald Ave. Bingo will be 1 p.m. Sunday. 510-307-8087.

Booker T. Anderson Jr. Senior Center — 960 So. 47th St. Walking for health 8:30 a.m. Tuesdays. Line dancing 2:45 p.m. Thursdays. Whist and dominoes 10 a.m.-1 p.m. today. 510-620-6816.

San Pablo

San Pablo Senior Adult Center — 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays, 1943 Church Lane. Band, bingo, low-impact exercise and card games. 510-215-3095.

Davis Park Senior Center — Bingo 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays, 17th and Folsom streets. Bingo 1-3:30 p.m. Thursdays, Maple Hall, 1 Alvarado Square. 510-215-3094.

All seniors

Gray Panthers of West Contra Costa County — 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, 706 Seaview Drive, El Cerrito. 510-525-0177.

West County Older Adults Clinic and Geriatric Services — 8 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays, 11720 San Pablo Ave., Suite C, El Cerrito. Mental health services and a physician specializing in geriatric medicine, by appointment. 510-374-3629.

The American Red Cross — 2-4 p.m. Mondays, 3200 Macdonald Ave., Richmond, free blood pressure testing. 510-233-2929.

Elder Abuse Prevention — Offers presentations to community groups and information and consultation on elder abuse issues. 510-233-3427.

Fridays. Submit information at least two weeks in advance to: Dora Scardina, c/o the Journal, 4301 Lakeside Drive, Richmond, CA 94806. E-mail: dscardina@cc-times.com. Fax: 510-262-2776.

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Woodminster Amphitheater, 8 p.m.

Closing the 38th season will be "Flower Drum Song." Woodminster will be performing David Henry Hwang's 2002 adaptation of the Rogers & Hammerstein classic.

"Flower Drum Song" is produced by arrangement with the Rodgers & Hammerstein Library. Music is by Richard Rodgers, lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II, and book by Henry Hwang, based on the original by Oscar Hammerstein II and Joseph Fields, based on the novel by C.Y. Lee.

For Ticket Info: 510-531-9597
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zone

PAGE A1

... zoning and other land-
... regulations that would en-
... that.
... decide," Flavell said.
... a vital San Pablo Av-
... commercial district or not."
... Van Norman said res-
... weren't anti-development
... worked hard to create a
... compromise that encouraged de-
... for San Pablo Avenue
... didn't affect San Pablo Av-
... side streets.
... council discussed the is-
... but came to no conclusions,
... a motion made by Coun-
... Peggy Thomsen and
... by Councilwoman
... Okawachi, to accept the
... residential zoning rec-
... by the planning and
... commission and sup-
... by many residents.
... motion lost by a 3-2 vote,
... Vice Mayor Robert Good,
... Ely and Councilman
... Maris voting against it.
... council instead continued

the discussion to its Sept. 7 meet-
ing.

Monday night's meeting was
the latest in a series of meetings
held since October, first with the
planning and zoning commission
and now with the council.

It was originally recom-
mended to the planning and zon-
ing commission in October that
Kains Avenue and Adams Street
— which run adjacent and par-
allel to San Pablo Avenue — be
rezoned to encourage larger
buildings and more commercial
developments on San Pablo Av-
enue.

That prompted an outcry from
Kains and Adams residents who
feared the new zoning would
lead to various unwanted uses on
those streets, such as fast-food
restaurants, large parking struc-
tures, buildings that are too tall,
and associated traffic, noise and
pollution problems.

The process of hashing out
new zoning recommendations
with the planning and zoning
commission has stirred up strong
emotions.

Residents applauded for

neighbors and criticized Flavell
and Good for opposing what the
Kains Avenue and Adams Street
residents said they wanted.

With so many issues raised
and conversations that touched
on parking, building heights, af-
fordable housing requirements
and other minutiae of the city's
general plan and zoning provi-
sions, Ely said he felt the coun-
cil was moving in a direction that
would not please anyone. He said
the council needed to re-evalu-
ate what the city's needs were.

"What are we trying to
achieve," Ely said. "That's what
we need to be talking about."

Resident Bart Grossman said
he appreciated the council's dis-
cussion but that the city should
move in the direction of the 1992
city's general plan, which en-
couraged high-density residen-
tial uses for Kains Avenue and
Adams Street.

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-
3578 or at
alopez1@cctimes.com.

rt

PAGE A1

... middle school has gates
... on it," said Andrew.
... entrance has a gate
... (the middle school) kind
... like you're in a prison."
... however, the relative freedom
... high school did not trans-
... into chaos, said parent
... Black, who was on cam-
... a volunteer supervisor.
... remarkably calm," Black
... wearing a bright red wind-
... jacket with the words
... Cruisers" — the name
... parent volunteer program
... blazoned on the back. "I
... going real well."
... between goading students

into class and helping another
with her class scheduling prob-
lems, Principal Ron Rosenbaum
said he felt the same way.

"My goal is to have the right
kid in class the very first period
of the very first day," he said, giv-
ing a knock to his head for good
luck. "It takes a lot of work to
make sure it's smooth. So we've
been working pretty much for a
month, at least I have."

However, parent Hisae Ma-
suda said her experience regis-

tering her freshman daughter for
school has been chaotic due to
moving to Albany from the South
Bay only weeks ago. She was
outbid for homes all summer.

"That's why I moved to the
area, based on the schools' rep-
utation, so they better deliver,"
Matsuda said with a laugh. "I'm
sure I'm representative of a lot
of people here who paid crazy
house prices."

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-
3578 or alopez1@cctimes.com.

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Gospel
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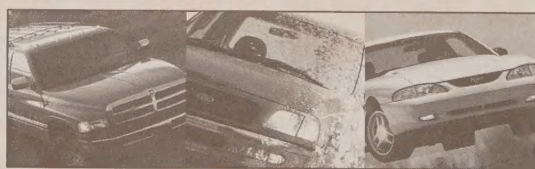
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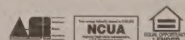
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Multiagency DUI checkpoint scheduled for Saturday

EL CERRITO — The city will be the location for a multiagency sobriety checkpoint as part of a regional anti-drunk-driving campaign on Saturday, Sept. 4 from 9 p.m. to about 2 a.m. Sunday.

Police officers from El Cerrito will work with those from Richmond, San Pablo, Pinole and Hercules to detect those who are driving under the influence of alcohol. Drivers going through the checkpoint will be asked to show their driver's license and will be checked for symptoms of intoxication, according to a press release from the El Cerrito Police Department.

— Deborah Byrd

Rockwell

FROM PAGE A1

He incorporated Shakespeare into his storytelling and organized a summer Shakespeare program for young children.

"Children are open to anything and are willing to go as high as you want to go," said Rockwell, 67. "You don't have to talk down to them."

On a whim, he said, he was asked to read to a group of children at the San Lorenzo Library and fell in love with it. He's been doing it ever since.

In addition, Rockwell performed puppet shows with puppets of his own creation. That includes the puppet "Max" that became something of an alter-ego.

With an interest in dance, he helped sponsor the grant-funded and popular "Bust-A-Move" program for middle and high school students in the late 1990s, that

incorporated a number of different styles, including swing, salsa and hip-hop.

The program brought hundreds of students together for social dancing.

"In the end it was a merger of cultures," he said.

Rockwell also is a freelance writer and active in leftist political issues. He protested the Vietnam War in the 1960s while attending Columbia University and was an organizing member of "Angry White Guys for Affirmative Action," a national advocacy group for affirmative action.

In retirement, he plans to spend more time writing, fishing and being with his family.

"I've been very blessed to work in Albany," Rockwell said. "It's a wonderful city and community with a really wonderful community spirit."

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or at alopez1@cctimes.com.

Japanese Church Bazaar set for Sept. 19

Sycamore Congregational Church will hold its 38th annual Japanese Church Bazaar on Sunday, Sept. 19 from noon to 5 p.m. at the church, 1111 Navelier St., El Cerrito.

Everyone is welcome to the event, which features hand-crafted items, plants, door prizes and games for young children. Japanese cuisine is a highlight of the bazaar, with sushi, teriyaki chicken, curried rice, manju, udon and other delicacies to eat on the spot or take home.

For more information call the church at 510-525-0727.

Mixed

FROM PAGE A1

a single-story building and put this on top of it as a remodel," added planning and zoning commissioner Phillip Moss.

Commissioners and residents also complained about a 6-foot-high concrete wall intended to buffer the project from the rest of the neighborhood on Kains Avenue.

"It almost walls itself off and it's not inviting," Moss added.



MADELINE KIRSCH leads the first group of riders at the beginning of a six-day, 100-mile Tilden Regional Park on Wednesday. The ride is designed to benefit the Bay Area Ridge Trail.

"And I'd like to see something a little more inviting for the community."

Several neighbors also felt the project was out of scale with the neighborhood.

Similar complaints have been made about Albany Commons, a four-story building at 914-916 San Pablo Avenue, just south of Solano Avenue. That's the reason the city is taking such care to correct design problems in the new project, Dowsell said.

"This is the most prominent site that will be redeveloped and

we can't afford to make a mistake at this site," he said during the meeting.

Developer Aaron Vitale of El Cerrito-based Vital Properties LLC said he felt the comments were constructive and would bring the project back for consideration with design changes

in late September or

ber. "We're going to make sure the comments very constructive come back with a project," Vitale said at the meeting.

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Real Estate

SALES • RENTALS • COMMERCIAL • MORTGAGES

Advertising supplement to The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Montclairian, The Piedmonter

owned
architects
mark on
Berkeley's
Fulton Street

Newsom Brothers
designed Brown-Shingle
home in historic Blake Tract
BENJAMIN EVANOSKY
SECTION EDITOR
A retired freight clerk Benjamin A. Harnett decided to move to Berkeley. According to a building permit, he purchased the property at the "southeast corner of Ward and Fulton streets." Harnett hired Joseph Cather Newsom, from the Newsom Brothers architectural firm, to design a two-story cottage at 2729 Fulton Street. When the brothers prevailed upon Harnett to move to Berkeley, he agreed. But the home's design departed from the Victorian era — which was three years earlier with the queen who lent her name to the era. The home looked soberly for the 20th century with a design many associate with the Brown Shingle. Newsom designed the home with a half square form with a design — reminiscent of the Revival style, then in



PHOTO BY DENNIS EVANOSKY

VITAL STATISTICS

What: A 1904 Newsom Brothers-designed Shingle-style home at 2729 Fulton St. in Berkeley's historic Blake Tract
Size: An approximately 2,294 square-foot Brown Shingle-style home on a 5,400 square-foot lot
Bedrooms: Four
Bathrooms: Three
Features: The Newsom Brothers — the renowned architectural firm famous for its creation of the William Carson house in Eureka — designed this Shingle-style home for retired railroad clerk Benjamin A. Harnett in 1904. The home's deep, wooded lot provides a special retreat. Brick fireplaces in the living room, dining room and master bedroom offer an extra level of comfort on foggy winter days. The home — with remodeled kitchen and bathrooms — is in the heart of Berkeley's Blake Tract, a popular turn-of-the-century streetcar suburb.
Price: \$849,000
Agent: Gloria Polanski, Marvin Gardens Real Estate, 510-292-3049, cell: 510-914-7472. Take a virtual tour at www.marvingardens.com.

Real Estate Spotlight:

Vision stands the test of time



In 1924, when Sidney and Nobel Newsom designed this home for the Dudley Dexter family, they were praised for "careful and imaginative planning and expressive design!" Their vision has certainly stood the test of time. The floorplan remains very true to the original but with updated facilities and expansions of the kitchen and family room. What exists today is an elegant and gracious home that lives and entertains in the same wonderful manner the Newsoms envisioned long ago. Your guests are welcomed into a spacious entry with a spectacular staircase. Enjoy entertaining in the sophisticated formal rooms or in the more casual kitchen/family room and spacious rumpus. The master suite is an elegant retreat complete with fireplace, sitting area, dressing rooms and magnificent bath. Each of the five other bedrooms is unique and charming. The site of this home is spectacular. It sits on almost one half acre of beautiful gardens with lovely brick patios. Add to this setting a variety of San Francisco Bay views for a truly inviting living experience.
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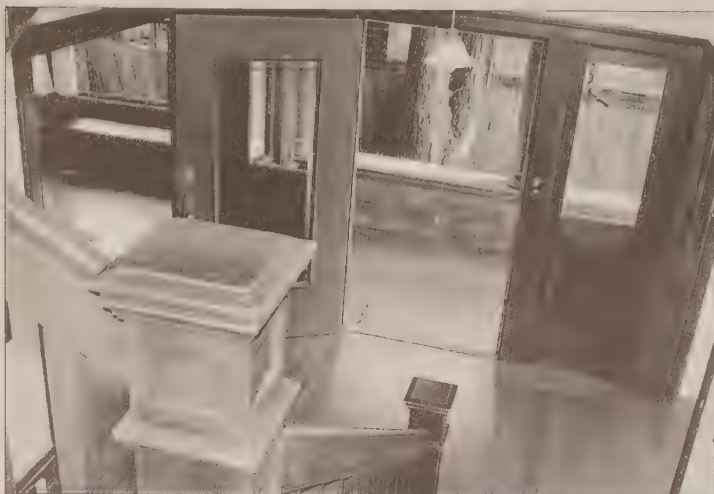
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KELLER WILLIAMS



A DEBT TO QUEEN ANNE: Although the appearance of a Shingle-style home differed radically from the more ostentatious Queen Anne style, a spacious entrance still carries its echoes.

Shingle

FROM PAGE B1

vogue. Then they clad this frame with a skin of redwood shingles. The home stands in stark contrast to the Queen Anne-style home just across Fulton Street that architect A.W. Pattiani designed 15 years earlier for San Francisco wine merchant Samuel Stanley. The Newsoms' stark shingles seem to take exception to Pattiani's ornate designs on the home's faade across Fulton Street.

These shingles were, however, neither new nor revolutionary. Architect Bernard Maybeck had already clad a number of his creations in these thin wooden sheets. Around 1895, he designed his first residential commission in what became arguably his most famous Berkeley Brown-Shingle creation, the Charles Keeler house.

Just down Fulton Street at 2821, architect Walter H. Ratcliff designed a Brown-Shingle home

The style became popular in the Bay Area and particularly in Berkeley as Maybeck and others "sought to encourage housing designs that blended in with the Berkeley hills," says Duchscherer. With its elegant brown shingles and its wooded lot the Newsom Brothers' creation at 2729 Fulton has just the right blend.

for the Roy B. Richmond family.

According to the Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association, Ratcliff had been working with renowned architect John Galen Howard. In 1906, just when the Newsoms were putting the finishing touches on their creation at 2729, Ratcliff began to build 2821. B.A.H.A. says Ratcliff described his Brown-Shingle creation as "elegant."

Both Ratcliff and the Newsoms had drawn from a shingle style that had its beginnings on the East Coast. In "Victorian Glory," Paul Duchscherer says that New England was "considered the

birthplace of the Shingle style."

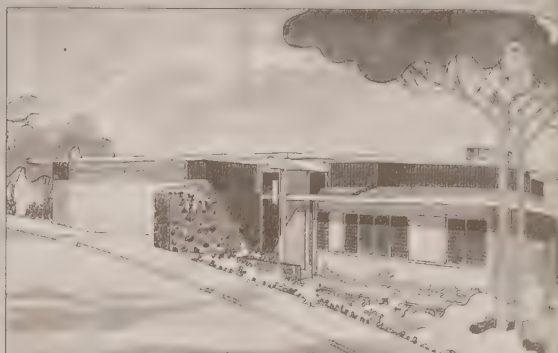
Duchscherer points out that "one could find innumerable examples of antique shingle houses" in the Northeastern United States. The Brown-Shingle style was "endearingly popular on the East Coast because it was close to the sources that inspired it."

The style became popular in the Bay Area and particularly in Berkeley as Maybeck and others "sought to encourage housing designs that blended in with the Berkeley hills," says Duchscherer.

With its elegant brown shingles and its wooded lot the Newsom Brothers' creation at 2729 Fulton has just the right blend.

Real Estate Focus:

Leona Heights home with a view



COMING SOON, THE FOUR-BEDROOM, three-and-a-half-bathroom home at 4400 is in the Leona Heights District of Oakland. Designed by architect Harry Brune, and on a floor plan that accentuates the best of that era. A teak-walled entry directs you to a wall of glass overlooking Leona Canyon and a dramatic South Bay view. The enormous Palos Verde's rock fireplace covers one complete wall of the room. The back of the house offers total privacy from neighbors to either side and is positioned on a hill. Spanning the length of the house, the deck allows access from multiple bedrooms (master and main floor common areas). The lower area of the home features a family room, second fireplace, kitchenette and a full bathroom and bedroom. Other features include a detached two-car garage, doors made of Philippine mahogany and exterior walls made of redwood.

Price: \$699,000. Open home Sept. 12 - 13, 1:30 to 5 p.m.
Listing agents: Dave and Carla Higgins, RE/MAX East Bay Hills, 510-595-7699, email at eAndCarla.com.

Prudential agent supporting a cause

PRUDENTIAL CLAREMONT

OAKLAND — Prudential Claremont agent Andrea Arata claims she's not an athlete. This month she is one of 2,000 participants in Ironman Canada — a 2.4-mile swim, 112-mile bike ride and a 26.2-mile run. "I'm doing this to raise money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society through their Team in Training Program," explains Andrea. "About 60 of us on Ironteam have been training for this race since October."

Arata has been training over 20 hours each week since March. "It's usually still dark outside when I leave in the morning to train," she

says. "Otherwise it's pretty hard to squeeze a 3-hour run in the middle of the day." Finding the time to train hasn't been her biggest challenge, though. "I've been waiting all summer for the sun to come out so the pool doesn't feel so cold when I jump in."

Team in Training coaches aspiring athletes while they raise money for Leukemia and Lymphoma research. In return, participants are motivated and inspired by the team honorees, volunteers with the program who are dealing with or have had blood related cancers.

This year's Ironteam has raised nearly \$500,000 for the Leukemia

and Lymphoma Society.

"Much of the Prudential community cited that I work in a supportive group."

She added, "I'm a little concerned about the hour cut-off time for the race. I have my hopes up, but I don't know if I can make it."

You can find the Team in Training website at www.teamintn.org and Lymphoma Society at www.lymphoma.org. Contacting Andrea is 510-595-7699.

Marvin Gardens Realtor is national award finalist

MARVIN GARDENS REAL ESTATE

BERKELEY — Diane Mintz, Marvin Gardens Real Estate, Berkeley, has been selected as one of the 10 Good Neighbor Awards finalists for 2004 by Realtor Magazine, the publication of the National Association of Realtors. The awards program, now in its fifth year, recognizes the ongoing efforts of Realtors who make exceptional contributions to improving the quality of life in their communities. There were nearly 300 entries this year.

Mintz had planned to spend an hour a week as a tutor in nearby Richmond, where half of the children

live in poverty. As she got to know the children, she learned how some had ever been outside the neighborhood, or to the theater or a museum. She started planning field trips and raised money to send 10 of the neediest kids to an overnight camp in summer 1999. This summer, her program, Youth Enrichment Strategies, sent 365 kids to camp. To deal with behavior issues she encountered with some children, she also devised weekend family camps to teach camping skills as well as leadership and conflict resolution skills to the children and their entire families.

Mintz is the only finalist from California in this year's group. "These finalists have made tremendous contributions to their communities," said NAR's vice president, Pamela Geurds Kabati. "They are an inspiration to all of us...and exemplify the spirit of community involvement that is typical of Realtors and demonstrate how invested Realtors are in the health of their communities. We're proud that the Good Neighbor Awards help show the world the positive different Realtors make in the places they call home."

Contact Mintz at Marvin Gardens Real Estate, 510-527-2700.

Empire Realty takes founding role in developing the Artisan Group

EMPIRE REALTY

DANVILLE — A new alliance — the Artisan Group — has been formed among a group of locally-owned, high-quality real estate companies in the greater Bay Area that cater to the upper end of the market.

Included in the Artisan Group are Bailey Properties in Santa Cruz County; Cashin Company on the Peninsula; Empire Realty Associates in the East Bay areas of Danville, Alamo, Blackhawk, San Ramon, Walnut Creek, Pleasanton, Lafayette, Orinda and Moraga; The Grubb Company in Oakland, Piedmont, and Berkeley,

Morgan Lane Real Estate in Napa and Sonoma Valleys; Ventura Barnett Properties in San Jose and Santa Clara County; the Mitchell Group on the Monterey Peninsula; and Paragon Real Estate Group in San Francisco.

Recognizing the importance of the role they play in the personal and financial lives of their clients, each company looks to its involvement in the Artisan Group as a way of extending their services beyond each company's immediate reach.

The qualities that brought them together include local ownership, strong market share and a

focused Web presence with an emphasis on on-line marketing. Each is educationally and technically-oriented with an emphasis on customer service.

Judi Keenholz, president of Empire Realty Associates, in a comment on the new affiliation said, "We are building on the experience and talents of each company's strengths for the mutual benefit of our agents to better serve our clients."

For more information about the Artisan Group, contact Linda Cookson, moderator and director, at 925-217-5028 or visit www.ArtisanGroupRE.com.

Don't let your retirement dreams slip away

When you think about retirement, do you see yourself on a porch swing watching the world go by? Or maybe you picture yourself out on the golf course perfecting your swing. Perhaps you would like to continue working part-time or spend your time volunteering.

Retirement today does not mean what it has traditionally meant and a little planning today can make a big difference in your financial picture when you retire.

In order to achieve these dreams and live them, you must be prepared financially for retirement. However, according to *The Wall Street Journal*, the median value of the retirement savings in a household is \$40,000 and many Americans are not confident that they have saved enough to live the lifestyle they would like to live in their golden years.

With this in mind, here are a few tips that will help you get started on your retirement plan today:

Don't rely on Social Security. When planning for retirement you should not depend solely on Social Security. The program's future continues to be in question and it was never designed to provide all the income you need to live comfortably in retirement. At best, the income you receive from Social Security will supplement your retirement savings.

Take advantage of your employer-sponsored plan. Take advantage of all the available tax-advantaged vehicles to save for retirement. An employer-sponsored plan, such as a 401(k), SIMPLE IRA

or 457 plan, is an excellent way to save, especially if the company matches your contribution with one of its own. While the plans differ in their details, each lets you defer a portion of your salary into an account. This money is deducted from your taxable income and once in the account, it has the potential to grow tax deferred until withdrawn. However, taxes are due upon withdrawal and withdrawals prior to age 59 1/2 are also usually subject to a 10 percent IRS penalty.

In addition, with many of these plans, the investments you can choose from are limited. Many companies also allow employees to invest in company stock in their retirement plans. While there is nothing inherently wrong with having some of your company's stock in your account, it is important regularly to review the amount of any one stock you own — including your company's stock — and make sure that you are properly diversified.

Remember your IRA. As with an employer-sponsored plan, money deposited into a traditional

According to *The Street Journal*, the median value of retirement savings in a household is \$40,000 and many Americans are not confident that they have saved enough to live the lifestyle they would like to live in their golden years.

IRA has the potential to grow tax deferred until withdrawn and withdrawals prior to age 59 1/2 are also usually subject to a 10 percent IRS penalty.

Real Estate & Home

A Weekly Publication of Hills Newspapers

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OAR sponsors benefit concert

OAKLAND ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS

Friday, Sept. 24, from 7:45 to 9:15 p.m., the Oakland Association of Realtors (OAR) is sponsoring a benefit concert to support the Chabot Center. The concert features Aryeh Frankfurter on Celtic harp. Tickets are \$25 per person and will be held under the (indoor) stars of the planetarium. If you are not familiar with Celtic harp music, you will be amazed by its beauty.

Those who know the hypnotizing qualities of this instrument are life-long fans. For more about Aryeh, go to www.lionharp.com. Ticket price includes admission to all exhibits. Reserve early by calling OAR Executive Vice President, Colleen Porter, colleenoar@oar.org or by calling OAR at 510-836-3000. Act now as these seats are quickly.

Seminar introduces reverse mortgage

FIRST SECURITY LOAN

Baby Boomer generation is approaching retirement age. Many will continue to work, but some are taking on a new career in this age group are not as young as they once were.

Many will opt for smaller homes or move into adult communities. Many will move up, needing larger homes to accommodate elderly parents moving in. Even though many homes, according to statistics, 40 percent are not owned by someone with enough income to pay the mortgage.

Many retirees find themselves with cash, while rich in home equity. Homeowner equity may be accessible for seniors. Making this accessible could increase income. Although it is not a new concept, the reverse mortgage is the simplest of terms a reverse mortgage is a loan for home-

owners, age 62 or older and offers a monthly payment to the owner, as long as said owner occupies the home. The reverse mortgage is income. There are no credit or income requirements and many loan options are offered.

Learn more about the reverse mortgage and other financial products available for senior citizens at the "Reverse Mortgages for Retirees" seminar. Loan consultant Anzella Jones of First Security Loan in San Leandro is the instructor.

With over six years experience in real estate and finance, Jones has earned the respect of her clients.

"Getting your questions answered is the way to begin the decision making process. Attending this class will make clear the possibilities of using home equity to improve finances, while retaining ownership."

Ask about the date of the next free class by calling 510-614-2440 or zelljones@sbcglobal.net.

You can also take advantage of catch-up contributions with both traditional and Roth IRAs, if you are age 50 or over.

The dilemma most people face is they want to enjoy some sort of retirement but few appear to be making financial preparations to do so. Do not let this happen to you — retirement is too important to be put off by financial situations. Start saving today.

Leila Gough is an Associate Vice President with A. G. Edwards, member SIPC, in Oakland. She can be reached at (510) 452-8060.

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Mortgages: The five C's of lending

When lenders sell diamonds they concentrate on the four "C's": Color, Clarity, Carat and Cost. Mortgage lenders have their own "C's," but there are the five "C's" of lending and those C's determine just what kind of mortgage loan you can get.

When an underwriter evaluates your file (and your life), they look for the following criteria.

■ **Capacity.** A loan underwriter's first question when evaluating a potential borrower is will the borrower(s) be able to repay the loan they are requesting.

First, they look at the borrower's gross monthly income in relation to the principal, interest, taxes and insurance payment. (It would also include any home owners association dues — and Primary Mortgage Insurance — PMI.)

If you are self employed or on straight commission (and are going for a fully documented loan), the lender will base your monthly income on a two or three year average of your tax return bottom line (Adjusted Gross Income — AGI).

Lenders will also need a two-year average for salaried persons when considering overtime and bonus income.

The underwriter then looks to your monthly consumer debt when added to your monthly housing expense.

This is all your credit card payments, car payment and any installment loans that will take longer than 10 months to pay off. (Again, credit card debt is figured at the minimum payment and that can take a lifetime to payoff.)

Underwriters will typically consider your ability to service the debt reasonable if the calculation (when you divide your monthly housing debt by your gross monthly income) — or ratio — falls below 30 percent, especially for a first time buyer.

They are more reasonable for a veteran homeowner and find that 33 to 36 percent is acceptable. The ratio for housing expense plus monthly consumer debt should fall between 36 and 39 percent if you want to fly through the process.

Most lenders who want to "sell" their loans on the secondary mortgage market cannot accept borrowers whose ratios exceed 42 percent. "Salable" loans are those who meet the very strict criteria of Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae guidelines. But, in saying

that, Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae will on occasion allow the housing ratio go as high as 65 percent if there is no other monthly consumer debt payable (they want you to have credit, just not use it) and if the credit scores are in excess of 720.

■ **Credit.** Will you pay your loan in a timely manner? This is the theme that concerns every lender. After considering your ability to service the debt, the lender considers your credit history.

One of the most important elements of the loan process is the tri-merge credit report. We work with an independent credit reporting service who develop a compilation of all three recognized and accepted credit reporting bureaus, Equifax, TransUnion and Experian.

They provide the scoring that the lenders require as well as a public records search and employment verification. These reports give the underwriter a solid snapshot of the borrowers management of their credit.

■ **Collateral.** Will the lender be protected if you default on your loan? An underwriter will have an appraisal to evaluate the value of your home, whether you are pur-

chasing or refinancing. It is important to consider a variety of factors like age, structural soundness, appearance, location, neighborhood, zoning and taxes.

Since the house will serve as 'the' collateral for your loan, the underwriter wants to make sure that it is worth at least as much as you want to borrow. The appraisal is equally if not more important on a high equity (125 percent debt consolidation) loan.

■ **Character.** Your personal character will also be important to a lender's underwriter considering your loan application.

Do you have a sound savings history and have you set up a retirement plan? Considering your credit report, have you demonstrated integrity in repayment of your debt obligations?

Most lenders will evaluate your determination to satisfy your debt obligations when considering your new loan.

See SENZIG, Page B4


KAREN SENZIG
Mortgage Madness

Touching up a house: Is it love or war?

Each and every single time we go to the houses, I see something new that needs attention. Sometimes it's just another paint splatter or grime that can easily be washed away. Other times, we encounter something more dire.

would we have to do to make every detail at home look this good? First, we'd have to move out. I don't think it would be possible to clean to this extent in an occupied house.

In this house, for example, many areas haven't been cleaned for over 50 years. On the top shelf of the linen closet lay dusty boxes of Kodak slides, and in the far reaches of the kitchen drawers, old soda straws and stray toothpicks. The garage, not unexpectedly, was packed to the ceiling.

It's unlikely that the residents would have gone to the trouble of removing everything just to clean thoroughly. It wouldn't be necessary anyway. As long as people are living in a house, while their belongings are everywhere inside, many surfaces are covered up, drips and dust unseen.

It's when a house is emptied that close-up scrutiny is possible. This is when the tiniest details — light switches and plugs, sink stoppers, window hardware, and on and on — jump to the fore.

It isn't always necessary, but the three houses we're getting ready

for sale now will all have floor refinishing done, painting, small repairs and replacements. In one, the termite work was completed. No termites, but eliminating dry rot meant a new kitchen sink counter and cabinet, back stairs, bath and laundry room floors.

Plus, in all three houses, cleaning, window washing, curtains, gardening and staging.

Scheduling the work, arranging work in a sensible order so that the electrician can turn off the electricity but not on a day the floor people are sanding, is challenging. For the last six weeks, we've spent many an hour lining up workmen, making sure they have access and materials, going to the houses to check progress and, inevitably, making changes and adjustments.

Each and every single time we go to the houses, I see something new that needs attention. Sometimes it's just another paint splatter or grime that can easily be washed away. Other times, we encounter something more dire.

The second refrigerator in the kitchen was recycled through the


TARPOFF AND TALBERT
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state program. We get to the house not long after it's been carted away. Apparently the movers thought they'd turned off the ice maker water. They've left the water tubing end in a vegetable bin. But whoops, water is now overflowing onto the floor and spreading fast.

Anet locates the water line tie-in under the house and turns the spigot. But water continues to run. We dump out the bin, position tubing in a larger container, and go to the hardware store. Anet explains the situation and purchases some sort of screw-on fitting.

Back at the house, she puts on the fitting, but water continues to flow freely. We call Shaun. He can't get there until the next morning. So we use electrical tape around the fitting, kink the tubing and tape it, then secure it inside a 32-gallon garbage can we find in the garden.

The day before the floor refinishers were to arrive, Anet and I take down the floor-length living and dining room drapes, fold them with the lining out, carefully transport them to the car (they're heavy) and bring them home.

See TARPOFF, Page B5

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All in the family: family-owned historic hotels

Part one of four parts
In my last series, I described several examples of the fairly recent trend towards historic "boutique" hotels: small-scale hotels in historic buildings that offer sophisticated ambience at reasonable prices.

In this series, I will explore a phenomenon that is actually bucking the major trends in the hotel industry: family owned hotels in historic buildings, which retain their historic charm even after recent remodeling.

In today's increasingly competitive hotel industry, the major trend is towards ever-larger chains of hotels, with major national and international corporations buying up local hotels and regional chains to exert greater control over the hotel trade in more and more markets.

A prime example of this trend is the giant French hotel corporation Accor, which recently

bought the Motel Six chain in the United States, and is now trying to upgrade the image of this popular chain, as well the clientele they serve.

In the face of this move toward greater and greater control of the hotel trade by fewer and fewer industry giants, there still remain some important exceptions: high end hotels that are located in historic buildings, which have been owned and operated by families for two or more generations.

Such hotels manage to preserve much of the historic ambience of their original architectural features, while offering their guests the charm of a more intimate family type atmosphere than their larger corporate competitors.

These "all-in-the-family" styles of historic hotels typically have several features in common.

First, they are small or medium scale hotels, with between

roughly 25 and 100 rooms.

Second, they are in upscale central urban areas, close to cultural amenities and activities that appeal to an educated, professional clientele.

Third, they are located in older, often historic buildings that have always been used as residences or hotels.

Fourth, even after major upgrading or renovations, their owners have taken care to retain, or to restore the historic features of their interiors.

Fifth, they usually have a specific theme in their décor tied to some historic period of the community they're located in.

In this four part series, I will describe some of the best examples of this "all in the family" phenomenon, both in the East Bay, and in two European countries where it has seen a revival of popularity in recent years: France, and Spain.

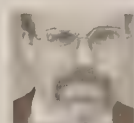
Some of the hotels we will be looking at in this series include:

- the Bancroft Hotel in Berkeley's South Campus area, a 1920s Arts and Crafts-style hotel, which was recently restored to its original glory
- a little-known Victorian-era historic inn on Alameda's Gold Coast
- the Hotel D'Arletan, in Arles France that once served as the residence of the Duke of Arles in the early 1500s
- the Hotel Colon, a Columbus-themed mid 20th century hotel

overlooking the Cathedral Square in the heart of Barcelona, Spain

■ the Napoleon Hotel, a 1920s four star hotel adjacent to the Arc de Triomphe in Paris, with a decor and artifacts which reflect the Empire Style from the Napoleonic era.

Mark A. Wilson can be reached at 510-273-9383 or by e-mail at MarkW@aol.com. Visit his Web site, www.Wildcatt.com, click on "Pieces of History."



MARK WILSON
Owning A Piece of History

Senzig

FROM PAGE B3

■ **Compensating Factors.** There are very few people who can fit the best lenders' guidelines in every shape and form. Life is like that. It deals out challenges to the very best people at the most inopportune times.

When we find a borrower with a big income and no savings account, we must demonstrate why. It could be a matter of huge alimony and child support payments, which the borrower can prove a history of perfect payment. It could be the homeowner that has invested a huge sum of money remodeling out of their personal pocket.

It could be overtime income that can only be substantiated over a twelve-month period, instead of the two years required. It

could be a single parent struggling to overcome a divorce.

All these things can fine-tune a borrower's credit. But as my husband and I consider the factors, we can find a loan for someone as they are with the lender's interest.

So keep in mind Credit Collateral. Compensating factors are telling your story and you just may win the Mortgage Match.

Karen Senzig
Montclair, N.J.
husband Scott
reached at 958-3814 e-mail
Please contact me
regarding questions
discussion

Wilson offers two classes

UC Berkeley: Mark A. Wilson will be teaching a brand-new architecture class this fall at UC Berkeley Extension. "The Art, Architecture, and Culture of Cuba," will be held Mondays from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., beginning Sept. 13. Students will earn two semester units in art history. The class will be held in room 106 of the Extension Center in Berkeley, at 2222 Harold Way. For more information about this course, call 510-642-1063.

Piedmont Adult School: Wilson will also teach his popular class on "Historic Homes of the East Bay" this fall at Piedmont Adult School, on Tuesdays from 6:45 to 9:45 p.m., beginning Sept. 14. For directions, or to pre-enroll, call 510-594-2655.

Capital gains rules for home

BY TOM HAMILTON
CORRESPONDENT

Q. I bought a home as my primary residence and sold it at a profit within four months, after having spent a good deal getting it fixed up. Now I have a second home which I had bought to live in, but we are now moving out of state, and I have put the house on the market. My question to you is, how much will I have to pay in capital gains

taxes, and is there any way to minimize the amount I have to pay Uncle Sam?

A. I have not lived in either of the houses and am renting a home right now.

— Shimli Altab

A. It would appear that the first home is a short-term capital gain that you will have to claim as such on your taxes. In nearly all situations, you need to own and live in

your primary residence for one month to be exempt from capital gains taxes. If you should have a property owned now for five years, "personal residence" loss, but as a person can't be used to offset

See RULES, p. 10

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Real Estate & Home

Weekly Home Sales Maintain your focus on the East Bay real estate scene [B7]
Open Home Guide See what's on sale in your neighborhood [B8]

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Looking a look around the East Bay real estate community

news and information for and the area real estate community and affiliated industries.

THE PUBLIC

Concord Association of Realtors invites everyone to attend "The Classic Craftsman Tour," a benefit for the Chabot Space and Science Center, 7:45 to 9:15 p.m., Sept. 24. The featured artist is Harriet, Aryeh Frankfurter. The event happens at the Chabot Space and Science Center. Ticket prices include admission to the tour, a glass of wine and a light refreshment. Tickets are rare and always sold out. Call Colleen Porter at 510-523-5907 or e-mail colleenporter@covad.net.

Oakland is almost over for The Oakland Association of Realtors Walk Around Lake Merritt Tour. This event, "The Classic Craftsman Tour," is a benefit for the Chabot Space and Science Center, 7:45 to 9:15 p.m., Sept. 24. The featured artist is Harriet, Aryeh Frankfurter. The event happens at the Chabot Space and Science Center. Ticket prices include admission to the tour, a glass of wine and a light refreshment. Tickets are rare and always sold out. Call Colleen Porter at 510-523-5907 or visit www.alameda-home.com.

Oakland Association of Realtors is a Walk Around Lake Merritt Tour. This event, "The Classic Craftsman Tour," is a benefit for the Chabot Space and Science Center, 7:45 to 9:15 p.m., Sept. 24. The featured artist is Harriet, Aryeh Frankfurter. The event happens at the Chabot Space and Science Center. Ticket prices include admission to the tour, a glass of wine and a light refreshment. Tickets are rare and always sold out. Call Colleen Porter at 510-523-5907.

House hunting this weekend?
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BOBBIE REID
Credit Worthy

Estate (a group of professionals from mortgage, title and Gallagher & Lindsey Realtors) by visiting GallagherAndLindsey.com or calling 510-865-4192 ext. 300.

Smart Solutions

If you are ready for smart financial solutions to home buying, "The Home Buying Solutions Seminar" is the right choice. This free class is from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 11. The class is held monthly at the San Leandro Main Library. For information on the next class, call Presenter Margie Lupo of Vintage Mortgage at 888-629-0077 x8610.

Shopping

Realtor.com is the official website of the National Association of Realtors. Ranked as the No. 1 home-for-sale site, it offers potential homebuyers more than 2.1 million Realtor listed homes for sale as well as the most brokers and agents to contact. The site also provides home sellers with the Internet's largest marketplace to reach more than 4.98 million consumers per month.

Safety Tips

PG&E offers many home safety tips and emergency preparedness. You'll find checklists and other useful information. Have the kids check out the safety games on the site to learn and have fun. Go visit at PGESafety.com.

NAR SAFETY

The National Association of Realtors designated Sept. 12 to 18 as the second annual Realtor Safety Week.

See REID, Page B8

Tarpoiff

FROM PAGE B3

The drapes are in good shape, creamy white and classy, and we will rehang them later. But meanwhile, we realized, they're getting wrinkled. Anet suggests that we pleat and tie them, lay them safely undisturbed. We put down clean sheets on my recreation room floor and work on one panel at a time. Kneeling on the floor, Anet at the pleated top, me at the hem, we try to be precise about our pleating before tying each bulky bundle in several places with strips of cloth.

We wash off the exteriors of the clothes washer and dryer and look inside. Find grit and fuzz in the washer so turn on to rinse it. Water

all over floor. Quickly shut the water off. A search shows a hole in the hose. Mop up water, call Shaun.

That night, although we already know the answer, Anet and I ask each other why we do it? We do it because it matters. Because we want the best for our sellers and for the buyers. Because we are compulsive. And because, as my mother would say, things should be done right.

Kitchen cabinet handles are needed, 34 of them, matching. We find silver-colored, brushed metal pulls, the right size, at Target. Perfect, but only 9 available at the first store. We get into it, go to five Targets in a row, manage to buy 30. Saidu, our trusty stager, goes to a sixth Target and finds four more.

Building inspector going to be there to look at termite repairs in

next couple of days. Have to have smoke detectors up and operational. Anet takes step ladder and her DeWalt.

Wood floors upstairs are being refinished. Can't walk on them. But that's OK because we can still get into the kitchen by the back door, then use the garage door opener we have left there to enter the lower floor through the garage.

But on this day, in late afternoon when Anet and I look for the opener, it isn't there. We call the painters and are told that the opener isn't working. In fact, the last guy had to leave via a freshly painted window.

We're tired and want to go home. But we have to solve this problem. We use the front door. Fortunately, floors haven't been coated yet. We gingerly walk across them,

find the opener near the window used by the exiting painter and check to see what's going on.

"Electrical problem," Anet says, and she goes to find it. Blown fuse, a particular type: 20 amp, small base. Oh miracle of miracles, in Anet's car trunk, in a plastic baggy of assorted fuses, she finds exactly the right one.

Add to shopping list, new doorbell button and blank cover for old kitchen clock plug. Get trust for title company. Add to disclosure, crack in fireplace brick. Make sign for gate. Line drawers? Oil bathroom fan motor and re-caulk upper edge of shower. Front door deadbolt sticks.

Pat Talbert and Anet Tarpoiff are residential real estate agents who can be reached at 653-2050 and at www.tarpoiffandtalbert.com.

Rules

FROM PAGE B4

the other property because they are not business investments.

I would normally believe that, unless you can show that these properties were purchased for investment purposes, you will have to claim the gain on the first home and any gain you may have made on the second home.

Losses on the second home would most likely not be allowed

to be claimed as a loss to offset the gains on the first home.

With respect to the first home that you have a gain on, remember all improvements and costs associated with increasing value on that first home that you can document can be added to the "basis" of that property to reduce the gains on that first home.

This is a fairly complex problem, so I would suggest that you contact a tax specialist to go over your records to ensure that you only pay those taxes you are required to pay. You can always

Unless you can show that these properties were purchased for investment purposes, you will have to claim the gain on the first home and any gain you may have made on the second home.

look to the positive side of this situation: you will have more money (in net terms) from this situation than you had prior to starting it.

Tom Hamilton, Ph.D., is associate professor at the Shenep Center for Real Estate Education at the

University of St. Thomas, Minneapolis. E-mail questions to: twHamilton@stthomas.edu. Please include name, city and state.

PLEASE RECYCLE.

Dream homes on eBay (Barbie not included)

■ Housing dreams made on the Web

BY GLENN ROBERTS JR.
INMAN NEWS

Suzanne "Mercedes" Hayes sells a lot of stuff on eBay. Just this week, the eBay merchant's list of for-sale items included a "Star Wars" chess set, the Jay Jay plush rocker by Toy Island, two mint-condition porcelain harlequin clowns with brown feathers, a Lite Brite Cube, a Caterpillar toy plastic wheelbarrow with jackhammer, a Hummer Pedal Car by Velocity Toys, a Playmobil Jungle Skeleton Dinosaur Cave toy and a Lou Rankin plush Charlie Chow stuffed animal.

That list also includes a multi-million-dollar home. No, not a

Barbie Dream Home. This is the real thing: Bowman's Farm Estate in Bucks County, Penn. It's a 16,600-square-foot Georgian-style home on the Delaware River, with access to a 25-acre private island. The home carries a \$3.99 million price tag.

Bowman's Farm is an example of the many real estate gems hidden on the Web. The Internet has become a venue where people go to seek out their wildest, most unique housing dreams. Hayes is also a Realtor with Weidel Realtors in Flemington, N.J., and she's got enough eBay experience so she decided to try her hand at selling the high-end home on the popular Web site.

See EBAY, Page B6



Coming Soon!



3937 Bayo Street, Oakland

This delightful 3bedroom/2 bath Bungalow w/family room is a real haven in the city. Beautiful hardwood floors, cozy fireplace w/built-in bookshelves. Large charming eat-in kitchen opens to the big level yard you've dreamed of. Entertain on the deck & the expansive lawn w/mature trees & raised beds for vegetables.

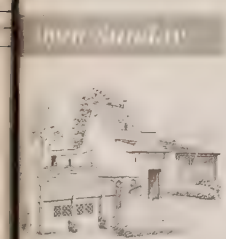
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PIEDMONT PINES \$895,000
105 ASCOT DR. (Open 2-4:30)
Magnificent Tudor by noted architect J. R. Yelland. Exquisite "Old World" style, exposed beamed ceilings, hand-painted casework. Stunning new kitchen, piano SF/GG views, 3BR/3BA. 1000 sq ft. x1348

OAKLAND HILLS \$839,000
1000 LOCHARD ST. (Open 2-5)
Beautiful "Mini Estate" 3bedroom, 2.5 bath, master retreat, large family room, eat-in remodeled kitchen and formal dining room. Approximately 1 acre level landscaped grounds. 1000 sq ft. x1334

BERKELEY HILLS \$775,000
1000 LEONA DR. (Open 2-4:30)
Stunning 1-story custom home built in 1959 on 1.5 acres. 3BR/2BA. Luxurious master suite, sun-drenched private courtyard, 2nd floor plan with high quality finishes & exceptional outdoor space. 1000 sq ft. x1355

CLAREMONT HILLS \$719,000
1000 WOODHAVEN WAY (Open 2-4:30)
Stunning 1-story custom home built in 1959 on 1.5 acres. 3BR/2BA. Luxurious master suite, sun-drenched private courtyard, 2nd floor plan with high quality finishes & exceptional outdoor space. 1000 sq ft. x1355

CLAREMONT HILLS \$719,000
1000 WOODHAVEN WAY (Open 2-4:30)
Stunning 1-story custom home built in 1959 on 1.5 acres. 3BR/2BA. Luxurious master suite, sun-drenched private courtyard, 2nd floor plan with high quality finishes & exceptional outdoor space. 1000 sq ft. x1355

CLAREMONT HILLS \$719,000
1000 WOODHAVEN WAY (Open 2-4:30)
Stunning 1-story custom home built in 1959 on 1.5 acres. 3BR/2BA. Luxurious master suite, sun-drenched private courtyard, 2nd floor plan with high quality finishes & exceptional outdoor space. 1000 sq ft. x1355

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

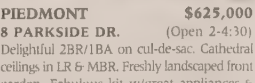
www.pacunion.com

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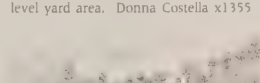


MONTCLAIR \$1,195,000
Panoramic View 4+BR/3.5BA remodeled 3800 sq ft home. Vaulted ceilings, open floor plan, chef's kitchen. Home office w/ potential in-law. Michelle Vasey x1359

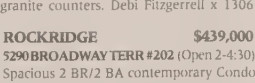
MONTCLAIR \$769,000
Immaculate 4+BR/3BA remodeled home in a private Montclair setting. Au pair w/ separate entry & kitchen, new decks, level yard area. Donna Costella x1355



PIEDMONT \$625,000
8 PARKSIDE DR. (Open 2-4:30)
Delightful 2BR/1BA on cul-de-sac. Cathedral ceilings in LR & MBR. Freshly landscaped front garden. Fabulous kit w/great appliances & granite counters. Debi Fitzgerald x1306



MONTCLAIR \$639,000
Contemporary 3BR/2.5BA home on oversized lot in a private cul-de-sac setting. Formal dining room, 2 decks, master w/ spa & sauna. Chuck Curwin x1353



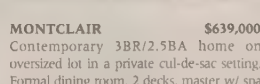
ROCKRIDGE \$439,000
5290 BROADWAY TERR #202 (Open 2-4:30)
Spacious 2 BR/2 BA contemporary Condo with Bay view. Great storage and closets. One parking space. Ashley O'Neill x1368



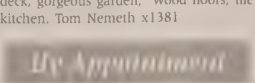
UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$1,649,500
Stunning 2002 contemporary by award winning architect Robert Nebolon. 4BR/3+BA. Tall ceilings, spacious rooms, luxury finishes. Bay Views! Gorgeous! Dee Knowland x1318



NORTH OAKLAND \$325,000
5915 WHITNEY ST. (Open 2-4:30)
Absolutely adorable 1BR cottage. Private deck, gorgeous garden, wood floors, tile kitchen. Tom Nemeth x1381



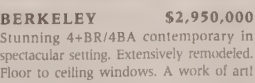
LAKE MERRITT \$449,000
Superb 2BR/2BA condo - Manhattan chic, granite island, overlooking bath, master suite, balcony overlooking park and lake, gas fireplace. A true showplace! Joanna Gould x1346



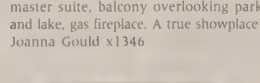
BERKELEY \$2,950,000
Stunning 4+BR/4BA contemporary in spectacular setting. Extensively remodeled. Floor to ceiling windows. A work of art! Nancy Noman x1373



PIEDMONT \$1,595,000
This 3BR/3BA home provides elegant, large rooms, easy indoor, outdoor living, lovely views, & lots of storage. Debi Fitzgerald x1306



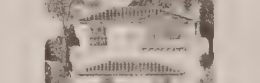
MONTCLAIR \$1,095,000
Dramatic View 4+BR/3BA contemporary home. Soaring ceilings, luxury master. Kitchen/family room, decks, hot tub, fabulous! Nancy Noman x1373



ROCKRIDGE \$995,000
Charming Bay View 3+BR/2BA near BART. Large family room w/level out patio, separate dining & breakfast rooms, view balcony off master. Leslie Avant x1341



UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$2,850,000
Stately Normandy on privately situated approximately 2 1/3 acre. Large main house, guest cottage, conservatory. Views. 4BR/4.5BA. David Ichikawa x1331



CLAREMONT HILLS \$350,000
New Listing! Ready to go! Upslope lot with city approved plans for a wonderful 4500 sq ft Mediterranean. Very desirable area of custom homes. Convenient location to freeways & UC. Robyn Mohr x1310



LAUREL \$479,000
Delightful 3BR/2BA Bungalow w/FR is a real haven in the city. Beautiful hwdwd floors, cozy fireplace w/built-in bookshelves. Large eat-in KIT opens to big level yard. Expansive lawn w/mature trees. Bob and Carolyn Nelson x1345



MONTCLAIR \$549,000
Two blocks to Montclair village. Storybook 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom home. A separate studio and a terraced yard add to the charm of this lovely home. Wendy Gardner-Ferrari x1303

WEEKLY SALES

ALAMEDA

215 Avington Rd - \$626,000
 12 Britt Ct - \$649,000
 3001 Central Av - \$700,000
 3012 Cerro Vista - \$450,000
 910 Chestnut St - \$811,000
 27 Damon Ct - \$520,000
 1029 Doris Ct - \$520,000
 1 Egret Ct - \$560,000
 1630 Foley St - \$456,000
 621 Glenwood Isle - \$807,000
 315 Haight Av - \$540,000
 1369 Hansen Av - \$670,000
 426 Indian Bay - \$735,000
 17 Invinible C9 - \$570,000
 1024 Island Dr - \$535,000
 2986 Johnson Av - \$542,000
 39 Lawrence Rd - \$820,000
 2426 Lincoln H - \$370,000
 736 Pacific Av - \$650,000
 909 Pacific Av - \$661,000
 1230 Peach St - \$629,000
 22 Salmon Rd - \$890,000
 2133 Santa Clara - \$370,000
 425 Sheffield Rd - \$690,000
 1193 Sherman St - \$1,675,000
 1001 Shoreline 108 - \$485,000
 2101 Shoreline 272 - \$398,000
 955 Shorepoint 109 - \$263,000
 960 Shorepoint 112 - \$290,000
 3039 Thompson - \$717,000
 1055 Via Bonita - \$483,000
 18 Wexford Pl - \$680,000
 2920 Windsor Dr - \$540,000

ALBANY

908 Adams St - \$387,000
 1506 Beverly Pl - \$550,000
 626 Cornell Av B - \$650,000

730 Cornell Av - \$555,000
 519 Evelyn Av - \$485,000
 941 Jackson St - \$449,000
 712 Key Route Bl - \$695,000
 841 Key Route Bl - \$405,000
 1506 Marin Av - \$630,000
 1104 Neilson St - \$667,500
 525 Pomona Av - \$575,000
 909 Ramona Av - \$880,000
 1020 Santa Fe - \$634,500

BERKELEY

1642 10th St - \$555,000
 2105 8th St - \$435,000
 1323 Addison St - \$635,000
 830 Addison St - \$418,000
 878 Arlington Av - \$1,224,000
 1425 Bancroft Wy - \$680,000
 835 Bancroft Wy - \$585,000
 2621 Benvenue A - \$495,000
 2139 California 38 - \$208,000
 1800 Chestnut St - \$389,000
 2421 Curtis St - \$485,000
 1420 Derby St - \$440,000
 1139 Gilman St - \$550,000
 152 Hillcrest Rd - \$1,355,000
 1020 Jones St - \$525,000
 1160 Keeler Av - \$597,500
 1189 Keith Av - \$720,000
 2710 Le Conte 1 - \$435,000
 66 Maryland Av - \$610,000
 1921 Milvia St - \$610,000
 1204 Neilson St - \$514,000
 978 Page St - \$496,500
 2026 Prince St - \$650,000
 2123 Russell St - \$992,000
 623 San Luis Rd - \$985,000

See SALES, Page B10

eBay

FROM PAGE B5

The estate is listed for sale on eBay but, unlike many items, is not going to be auctioned. "My client was pretty excited about it," said Hayes, who posted the home on eBay last month. "I have been an eBay merchant for five years; I have a very good comfort level with eBay. Most of our marketing has been traditional, through the (multiple listing service)." The seller, she said, has had a lot of local exposure for the property but not a lot of showings.

There is a glut of about 28 homes for sale in Bucks County that are listed between \$2 million and \$6 million, Hayes said, so she decided to try something different to spread the word about the Bowman's estate. "Most of the Realtors in my office didn't know there was an eBay real estate category. The prevailing opinion in the industry is that eBay is a waste of time (for home sales)."

At this point I think it's strictly a tool for advertising," Hayes said. "I feel like I'm kind of a ground-breaker."

But she expects home sales through sites like eBay to catch on. "My gut feeling is it's only a matter of time. What better way to get exposure, right?" she said. And the cost of a 30-day listing on the site was \$150, which is cheaper than a lot of other advertising options, she added.

More than 10,000 people viewed

the eBay home posting, but Hayes suspects that the vast majority "were just being nosy." So far she's had just a handful of calls related to the posting, and most of those have been from people who work at owner-financing companies, she said. "So far eBay has not been a very good tool."

But who knows, she said, the Internet was what led her to become the home's listing agent. "If I got my buyer through eBay that would be real kudos."

eBay promotes a potential audience of 70 million people for real estate listings at the site, and its fees range from \$150 for a 30-day ad or auction listing to \$300 for a 90-day ad listing. There are no final value fees or commissions charged for real estate sales.

More than 2,200 real estate properties sell on eBay each month, on average, and the site is particularly popular for posting unique homes, vacation homes and investment properties.

Hayes has seen a lot of for-sale-by-owner home listings on eBay. One sign vendor in Albuquerque, N.M., capitalized on this trend by offering customized eBay real estate signs that can be personalized with the home's eBay item number and the homeowner's phone number.

While luxury-home postings are popular on eBay, the site also features some real fixer-uppers. This week, a Kentucky Lake Weekend Cabin was posted for bid with a starting price of \$30,000, for exam-

ple. "It's not fancy, but it's a good place to stay while your (sic) hunting or fishing for crappie on the weekend. Also, I am having (sic) a new driveway put in this week (paved) at the cabin," according to the online description of the cabin. The ad also states the cabin "is in a cozy (sic) setting."

Another property for sale on eBay, a three-bedroom, one-bathroom home in Cherokee, Ala., has "a terrible smell from all the dogs that used to live there," a big hole

where the dryer went through the wall with fleas and it's not able to walk through out them getting all the fleas, the rotten outside of the house, kan windows, in house," the listing says. The purchase price is \$14,500 and a dog

The GRUBB Co.



8624 Edgehill Court, Berkeley

COMING SOON. A sweet two bedroom, one bath home with gleaming hardwood floors, bay windows and a spacious, level rear garden and a treasure in the hills!

TRICIA SWIFT

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tsswift@grubbco.com

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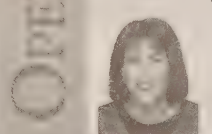
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The GRUBB Co.



6525 Swainland Road, Montclair
 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. A sophisticated contemporary with spectacular views of San Francisco and its bridges. Situated on approximately 1/3 acre with level front and side gardens, this five bedroom, three and one half bath home includes a separate one bedroom apartment.

Offered at \$1,575,000



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1400 SOLANO AVENUE, ALBANY

12-UNIT BUILDING: Well maintained 12-units on 2 floors over parking. 1-bedroom units with balconies. Great location in the heart of the Avenue district.

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Loan Requirements:

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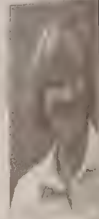
Alex Alexander

510-292-2020

2099 Pleasant Valley
Oakland

Vince Wirthman

510-504-5683

1891 Solano Avenue
Berkeley

Gwen Hooper

510-849-1382

2983 College Ave
Berkeley

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Ingleside

Mid-Century diamond located on one of Ingleside's best blocks with Ocean & Bay views. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, room down, and expansion potential. Gorgeous remodeled kitchen.

\$559,000



Midtown Terrace

Located on a quiet cul-de-sac this 2 bedroom 1 1/2 bath home has panoramic views. Large deck and backyard.

\$599,000



Novato

High atop a hill overlooking Indian Valley, this architectural masterpiece is situated on 2+ acres. 3 bedrooms, 4 baths, separate wing ideal for home office, au pair, or master suite.

\$1,600,000

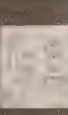
Prudential
California Realty

Jim Hedges

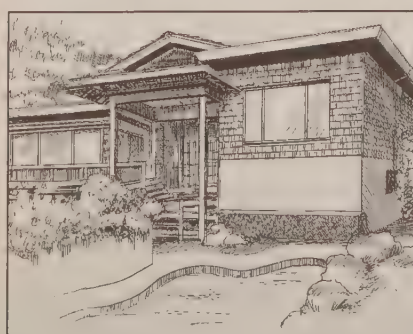
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and our newest location!

221 Caledonia St.
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\$829,000

Coming Soon - Sept. 12
 Japanese contemporary with pool, Bay view, backyard koi pond. Great location. HW floors, 2 car garage with inside access. Close to dwn. 3BD/2.5 BA. Close to Montclair & Hwy 13, but quiet.

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Michael Gallagher

510.899.6329

www.5926Wood.com

No show until Sept. 12



MONTCLAIR



Bay

PAGE B6

homes aren't the only real estate for sale on eBay. Timeshares, vacation rentals, land and commercial properties have also been sold on the site. A few entrepreneurs have even attempted to sell entire towns on eBay: Tortilla Flats, Ariz.; Water, Calif.; and Bridgeville, Calif.,

were all put up for sale on eBay in the past couple of years.

Owner Sylvia Ashcraft put Minkler up for sale in January. The asking price was \$600,000 for a general store, a mobile home and two other buildings in Minkler, which is about 230 miles north of Los Angeles, but the town did not have a buyer after generating about 39,000 hits during the three months it was on eBay.

Bridgeville, in Mendocino County, generated nationwide at-

tention when it was listed on eBay in December 2002. After much media hype, the price jettied from a minimum price of \$775,000 to about \$1.76 million at the time the auction closed.

But that deal fell through, and even the lower bidders fell away, one by one, until the eBay auction was a total bust.

In May of this year the town, which included 10 cabins, four cabins, a post office and a cemetery, sold for \$700,000 to an investor in

Southern California, but this time through traditional methods.

Denise Stuart, a real estate agent for California Real Estate in Eureka, said the overwhelming publicity from the attempted sale of Bridgeville on eBay was great, but she would never again attempt to sell a property on eBay. "It ate up six months of my life," she said. "It was just kind of a fiasco — too much too fast." She fielded calls from prospective buyers in the Ukraine and England. Media from

around the globe called her for interviews. She referred some business to other agents in her office because the town sale was gobbling up too much of her time.

"I had my hands full," she said. But, she added, the Bridgeville sale did generate a lot of leads for her and her company. "It was a really positive thing for my office."

The eBay auction fell apart because there weren't any real legal teeth to the auction that bound the sale, she said. The

highest bidder "got buyer's remorse," she said, and quickly stepped away from the table.

Tortilla Flats, a remote Old West-era town along the Apache Trail in Arizona, was for sale this year on eBay with an opening bid of \$5.5 million.

In 2003, acreage on a private, uninhabited island in Whitefish Bay was for sale for about \$700,000.

Visit www.inman.com for more real estate articles

Coming Soon

630 Mandana Blvd., Oakland

View this home online @ www.630Mandana.com

Wonderful traditional two-story home on Mandana has opened its doors to new owners for the first time since 1918, when it was built. You will love the large, formal, sun-filled rooms, gleaming hardwood floors, original hardware including glass and doorknobs, stunning limestone fireplace, original kitchen, maid's room and bath downstairs. Upstairs offers three bedrooms and a bonus sun room that could easily be a fourth bedroom or office. A convenient two-car garage is attached. This home, located on newly paved boulevard with underground utilities and old-fashioned street lamps, is a short stroll to Lakeshore shops, Peet's and Starbucks, a great farmer's market, and beautiful Lake Merritt. Piedmont, BART and freeway access nearby. Foundation and drainage work needed. Offered at \$699,000

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TESTIMONIAL FROM A CLIENT
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Coming Soon! Claremont Hills Contemporary!

Sweeping Views! Dramatic light-filled entry, four bedrooms, two and one half baths, granite and stainless kitchen, rumpus room, new patio and beautiful terraced yard.



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Offered at \$1,195,000

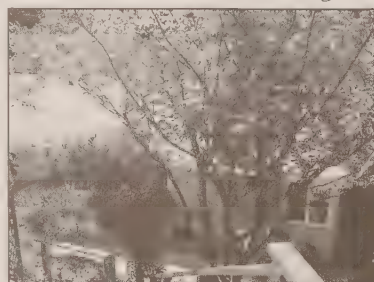
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7275 Wild Currant Way • Private Retreat close to the Village

Down to your own private retreat and enjoy this special master home set among the trees. Updated and easy living retreat you to this 3 bedroom 2 bath home with updated granite counters, stainless steel appliances and 2 full bathrooms. Wood floors and fireplace add to the appeal of this home and there's plenty of extra space. An enchanting back yard with landscaped garden, meandering paths, a brook, and a deck off the kitchen. Many more features make this a desirable place to call home!



Offered at \$689,000

Donna Conroy 510-339-4723

View photos at: donnaconroy.com



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Offered at \$995,000



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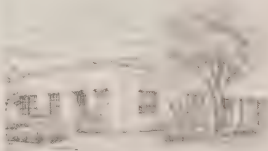
ALBANY \$2,250,000
12-UNIT BUILDING - Well maintained 12-unit building on 2 floors over parking. All 1-bedroom units with balconies. Great location in the heart of the Solano Avenue district.



BERKELEY \$1,500,000
RETAIL/OFFICES/APARTMENT - Beautiful building in prime location on Solano Avenue. Spacious unit in the back. Parking behind building. Building: 4,519 sq.ft. Lot: 6,632 sq.ft.



BERKELEY \$968,000
3+/-2 - Country living with gorgeous city views. Custom built in 1986. Open floor plan, large level garden. Great expansion potential and much more!



EMERYVILLE \$2,950,000
DESIGNER LOFT - Home-income loft with 2 rental units. Main 2-story building; indoor lap pool, professional kitchen. More information and photos at www.valleystreetloft.com



EL CERRITO \$399,000
3/2 - Incredible fixer opportunity located on a quiet cul-de-sac with Bay views. Additional 1/1 with family room downstairs could be an in-law. Needs everything including structural.



BERKELEY \$845,000
3+/-2 - Fusion Craftsman! Beautiful brown shingle, detached "tea room" with skylights, Ofuro soaking tub, formal dining room. Near Solano and the Gourmet Ghetto.



OAKLAND \$599,000
2/1 - Charming! Craftsman tree bungalow in Crocker Highlands on a lovely tree-lined street. Spacious rooms include formal dining, sunny living room with fireplace. All on a large parcel.



BRENTWOOD \$2,400,000
FABULOUS EQUESTRIAN RANCH - Less than 4 miles from Brentwood. Two separate dwellings: one 3bd/2ba home and one 2bd/1ba unit. Photos at www.charliecookproperties.com.



EL CERRITO \$389,000
2/1.5 - Stunning, spacious Mira Vista Townhome overlooks canyon with many trails, rear patio on golf course. Large 2-car garage, storage, pool. New carpet and paint.



BERKELEY \$789,000
4/3 - Berkeley Hills Traditional with SF & Golden Gate views. Living room with vaulted ceiling, formal dining room. 2nd level with large master suite, deck & view.



OAKLAND \$383,000
2/1 - Updated Craftsman. The best of Old and New. Extensive remodel with attention to detail. Large eat-in kitchen, great yard, easy access to San Francisco.



BRENTWOOD \$2,300,000
LAND - 30 acres of flat land surrounded by regional parks. Two wells on property. Marsh Creek runs through it. More information and photos at www.charliecookproperties.com.

Is it time to fly the coop?



[september 5th]
LABOR DAY WEEKEND

Reid

FROM PAGE B5

Week. The intent is to encourage safety thinking among agents. The week will focus on learning and discussions among Realtors about hazards they face. Solutions for avoiding high-risk situations and dealing with danger will be offered. Local associations are holding training classes and awareness semi-

nars. Check with your area Realtor association or Realtor.org/safety for further information.

MOBILE CALLBACK

Mobile Callback is a safety product for improving Realtor safety. Realtors receive pre-arranged calls on their mobile phones to monitor location and well being. This is helpful at open houses and showings. Anyone that spends time with people they don't know, as part of their

business can use this to provide a higher level of safety. To order visit mobilecallback.com.

BEST BALL

The Associated Real Property Brokers and their Women's Council present the Annual Charity Golf Tournament, Wednesday, Sept. 15. This "Best Ball" touney tees off with a shotgun start at the Metropolitan Golf Links, on Doolittle Drive, in Oakland. Enjoy lunch, dinner, com-

petitions and prizes. Sign up now for this sell out event. For ticket information contact DeAnna Baldridge at 510-777-0404.

LANDLORDS

Landlords and Property Managers - earn a CCRM Designation. RHANAC presents the California Certified Residential Manager Program. The program covers all facets of managing rental properties. Evening sessions start on Sept. 7.

A Fast Track session is scheduled for Oct. 2. Visit www.rhanac.org for tuition information.

BROKER MEETING

Bob Valva of Valva Realty invites Oakland real estate brokers to attend the Oakland Realtors Commercial & Industrial Brokers Committee. According to Valva the group was appointed years ago, by the Oakland mayor to facilitate city sales and leasing. The committee's

purpose is to help build the next meeting is Thursday, Sept. 9, at the OAR Auditorium. If you would like to meet Valva at 510-451-7317.

45-HOURS

The California Association of Realtors offers continuing education. This is intended to meet

See REID, Page

PILGRIMAGE PINES

OPEN SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2-4:30PM

6165 Ascot Drive, Oakland

Magnificent 3 bedroom, 3 bathroom Tudor by noted architect W.R. Yelland. Exquisite "Old World" details include exposed beamed ceilings and handcrafted casework. Stunning new kitchen, panoramic San Francisco/Golden Gate views.

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1015 Middlefield Road, Berkeley

COMING SOON. One level living from this Mid Century home in a tranquil and serene setting bordering Tilden Park. Beautiful outlooks from the floor to ceiling windows in the living room, a dining ell, eat-in kitchen, three bedrooms, two baths, attached two car garage, and on the lower level a family room leading out to a patio area.

Offered at \$675,000



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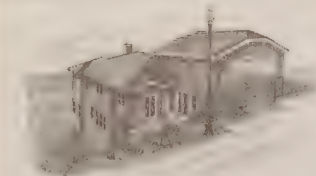
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(510) 531-7000

www.wellsandbarnett.com

OPEN SUNDAY 2:00 - 4:30

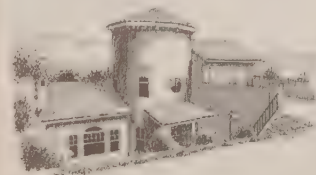
BY APPOINTMENT



1845 NORTHWOOD CT. \$1,399,000

Montclair (Skyline to Manzanita). Stunning three year old with sweeping views. Three bedrooms plus main-level suite, chef's kitchen, formal dining room, family room & wine cellar. Exquisite custom lighting, extensive use of natural stone.

Mary Neuberger 531-7000 x251



6829 ELVERTON DRIVE \$1,245,000

Montclair. Dramatic, panoramic Bay & canyon views. 3+BD including a master suite. 4 full BA, library, home office, recreation room. Stunning circular entry. Gourmet kitchen with commercial grade appliances.

David Hennigan 531-7000 x229



1767 WOODHAVEN WAY \$779,000

Montclair. A very special home in a lovely oak and redwood setting. Three bedrooms, two baths, and a family room. Gracious living room with vaulted ceiling & fireplace, formal dining room, level yard with extensive decking.

Chris Christensen 531-7000 x242



3828 LINWOOD AVENUE \$679,000

Glenvue. Craftsman with space, old world charm and modern upgrades. Large living, and formal dining with beautiful built-ins, wainscoting and inlaid hardwood floors. Three plus bedrooms, one and a half baths. Kitchen with granite counters, laminate floors, wedgwood stove, Private deck, lovely garden, basement and off street parking.

Jaya Bhimani 531-7000 x289

377 PALM AVENUE #108

Adams Point. Large quiet two bedroom, two bath with new carpet, kitchen cabinet upgrades, fireplace, and large deck. Two blocks from Lake Merritt in desirable location.

Catherine Vallee 531-7006 x258



3452 COOLIDGE AVENUE \$453,500

Fruitvale. Price reduced! Roomy single family residence with three bedrooms, one bath. Transportation nearby. Sunny family room. Nice kitchen, good size backyard. "As-is", needs some finish work. Good bones, come check it out!

Anne Manley 531-7000 x277



PRESTIGIOUS PERSHING DRIVE \$997,000

Montclair (Piedmont Side). Wonderful century with sweeping views of Bay. Wa glass, soaring ceilings, updated kitchen, and floorplan. Three bedrooms, three full baths, rampy room with fireplace

Mary Neuberger 531-7000 x251

HEART OF MONTCLAIR \$875,000

Montclair. Very well maintained home. Two bedroom, three bath with extended living area that quiet in-law. Owner relocating. Two car garage plus extra lot.

Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

BERKELEY HILLS VIEW HOME \$770,000

Berkeley Hills. 1930's charm, two bedrooms, family room, separate office. Front and rear yards.

Fred Perkins 531-7000 x282

NORTH OAKLAND FIXER \$340,000

North Oakland. This 2BD/1BA home needs TLC. It has an updated bathroom & kitchen w/newer range & dishwasher & some hardwood under the carpets. There is a fireplace in the living room & the dining room has original built-ins.

Carol Robbiano 531-7000 x292

INVESTMENT PROPERTIES

JACK LONDON DISTRICT-COMMERCIAL BUILDING \$1,000,000

Oakland. Victorian four plex. Truly one of a kind. Lots of upgrades & tastefully renovated. Zoned for 40. Suitable as commercial office space & other uses. Just off Broadway.

Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

WEST OAKLAND 4 PLEX \$875,000

Oakland. Large units, great potential. Mandela Gateway project.

Anne Bruff 531-7006 x283

WALNUT CREEK (925) 938-8484

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WHAT'S UP?

Let me write about your news item in this column. Just give me the basic details. Deadline is two weeks before the event. E-mail bobbireid@mindspring.com. Fax your info to me at 510-441-7191.

Be a hero. Give blood.

PLEASE REMEMBER

Real Estate Advertising Deadlines

Space Reservations: **MONDAY, 12 Noon** Copy Requiring Typesetting: **MONDAY, 5 pm**

Copy & Artwork: **TUESDAY, 12 Noon** Open Home Guide: **WEDNESDAY, 12 Noon**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ADONAL FOYLE DEEPENS HIS BAY AREA ROOTS

Oakland, CA - August 29, 2004 - After re-signing a new 5-year contract and being named Team Captain of the Oakland State Warriors, Adonal Foyle is now looking to deepen his Bay Area roots. He has recently put his Upper Meridian home on the market, and is looking for more space, privacy and a new place to call home.

When Foyle bought his beautiful Oakland Hills home in 2000, he was clearly influenced by the stunning views of the San Francisco Bay from many rooms in the house. He enjoys his 'sanctuary' in the hills, and has found it the perfect place to unwind and relax, whether in the bubbling Jacuzzi or on his private deck looking out at the sunset over the Bay.

Over time, and with growing celebrity in the Bay Area, he has found the need for a larger, more private property to call home. When he re-signed with the Warriors in July, he felt the time had come to make a move. Foyle decided on the Frazzano-Mees Team of Re/Max Accord to list his Oakland Hills home.

John Eriksen, Foyle's Business Manager, said the decision to go with The Frazzano-Mees Team was an easy one. "I found that the Frazzano-Mees 'team concept' put many valuable resources at his disposal. He is a team player, and understands that everyone has a key role to play in putting together a winning strategy. He was also impressed with the diverse backgrounds of the four key partners: Joe Frazzano, Paul Mees, Ginny Mees and Barry McAvoy."

"I was excited to be working with such a wonderful person," says Ginny Mees, partner. "He has a beautiful home, but more importantly, he is one of the 'good guys.'" As a matter of fact, Foyle was named one of the "NBA Good Guys" by Sports Illustrated in both 2002 and 2004. He has shown time and again that it is just as important to make a contribution to the community as it is to win.

Foyle's home at 5932 Buena Vista Avenue

will be held open this Sunday, September 5th, from 1:00 to 4:30 pm. If you would like any additional information about this unique property, call The Frazzano-Mees Team at (925) 735-7653.



THE FRAZZANO-MEES TEAM

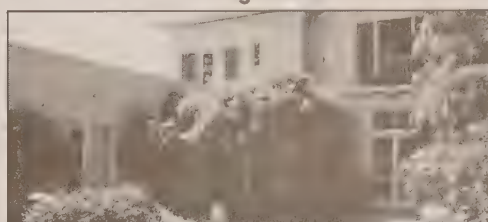
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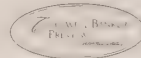


A bit of Tuscany in Berkeley with magnificent views of the San Francisco skyline, Golden Gate Bridge, Marin to Mt. Tam & situated near the Claremont Hotel, this beautifully crafted 2-story Mediterranean-style home, with its tile roof, French doors, and enchanting courtyard, designed by Thomas Church, is situated on 24 ac of wonderfully landscaped grounds with mature oak trees. There are 4 BDRMS, 4 BTHS which includes a luxurious master br & marble bath suite with a large private terrace. A spacious eat-in kitchen, form dining rm, large liv rm w/frpls. A light, bright jewel!

\$1,950,000

www.discriminatinghomes.com

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Berkeley 510.486.1495 • Oakland 510.339.4700

BY APPOINTMENT

Berkeley \$7,250,000
Mansion 9 BR 4.5 BA
Home is listed on the
National Historical Registry.
Estate includes second
house with 3BR/3BA, 2 guest
rooms & tennis court.
Kim & Barbara Marienthal
510.486.1495



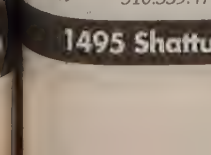
Montclair \$5,785,000
Bedroom, 5+ bath spectacular
chateau. Beautifully
landscaped, bay views. A
piece of heaven.
Julie Joyce
510.339.4700



Berkeley \$1,650,000
4.5 BA "Beaux-Arts" villa
in elegant apt in magic garden
with fountain, gazebo, cottage &
pool.
Barbara McHugh
510.486.1495



Montclair Hills \$1,540,000
4.5 BA Mediterranean
Great location! 2 yrs. new
w/granite counters &
stainless steel appliances. Great
views!
David Eckert
510.339.4700



BY APPOINTMENT

San Francisco County \$1,100,000
Outer Richmond District.
Spacious art deco duplex, both
units are 2BR 1BA with formal
dining room & fireplace.
Antonia "Noni" Robinson
510.339.4700

Montclair \$785,000
3 BR 3 BA Custom! High end
finishes, custom cabinetry, hwd
floor possible au-pair unit
downstairs.
Julie Joyce & Terry Anthony
510.339.4700

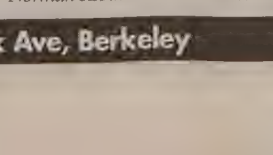
Redwood Heights \$729,000
4 BR 2.5 BA Enjoy the sweeping
bridge and Bay view from this
lovingly maintained 2 stories
with its huge yard and big
rumpus room.
Terry Kulka
510.339.4700



Lincoln Heights \$479,000
2 BR 1 BA Cottage w/bay &
wooded vu's. 1 lvl, open flr pln,
hwdws, fp, fncd yd, gar. It is
Wonderful!
Rachel Baller
510.339.4700



Oakland/Piedmont Ave. \$394,000
2 BR 2 BA Large condo, large
living rm - eat in kitchen -
dining area large. Deck over
looking - interior garden. With
access to kit, MBS, living rm.
Norman Robinow
510.339.4700



BY APPOINTMENT

Berkeley \$379,000
2 BR 1 BA Stylish condo near
Cal. Ikea kitchen, Pergo flrs,
updt bath. Pvt patio. Great
location. Secure parking.
Diana Kay
510.486.1495

Richmond-North East \$335,000
3 BR 2 BA New kitchen,
partially updated baths. New
landscaping lovely!
Barbara Hardacre
510.339.4700

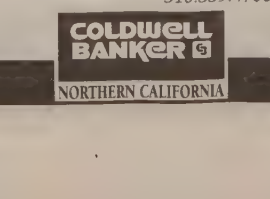
San Pablo Proper \$262,000
Immaculate Condo! 2 BR 2 BA
Located in quiet neighborhood.
New carpet, new paint, climate
control, and alarm system.
Benji Phillips
510.486.1495



Oakland \$1,850,000
6343 Skyline Blvd. Sun 2 - 4
4 BR 3.5 BA Open flr plan, gran
cntrs, quality materials &
craftsmanship used. 3 lvls w/bay
views.
Kim & Barbara Marienthal
510.486.1495



Temescal \$1,399,000
3801-3817 Shafter Sun 2 - 4:30
8 well maintained "SF style"
flats are rich with original
details. Close to Piedmont Ave.
Antonia "Noni" Robinson
510.339.4700



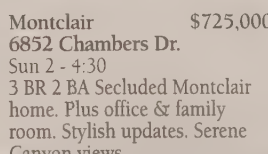
OPEN HOUSES

Oakland Hills \$1,075,000
4700 Shetland Sun 2 - 4:30
4 BR 4.5 BA New construction,
contemp. design, top of the line
finishes. Great flr pln, gourmet
kit.
David Eckert
510.339.4700

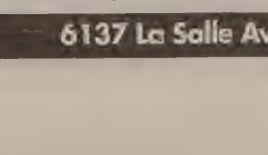
El Cerrito \$895,000
944 Arlington Sun 2 - 4
4 BR 3 BA Bay views from this
renovated, light filled
Mediterranean. Family room/au
pair, gar, yrd.
Kim Marienthal
510.486.1495



Montclair \$725,000
6852 Chambers Dr. Sun 2 - 4:30
3 BR 2 BA Secluded Montclair
home. Plus office & family
room. Stylish updates. Serene
Canyon views.
Julie Joyce
510.339.4700



Montclair \$689,000
7275 Wild Currant Way
Sun 1 - 5
3 BR 2 BA Enchanting retreat!
Updated baths, updated kitchen
with deck, wonderful
landscaped yd. WOW!
Donna Conroy
510.339.4700

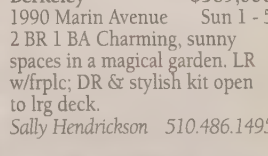


OPEN HOUSES

Richmond \$610,000
3461 Ridgewood Way
Sun 1:30 - 4:30
4 BR/2.5 BA Beaut 2 stry hm, FR
w/hdwd flrs w/fp, frml DR, lg
kit, parklike yd, 3 car gar, much
more!
Deborah Neal
510.583.5400

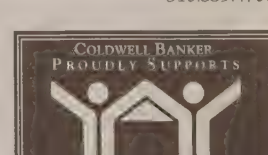


Berkeley \$569,000
1990 Marin Avenue Sun 1 - 5
2 BR 1 BA Charming, sunny
spaces in a magical garden. LR
w/frplc; DR & stylish kit open
to lrg deck.
Sally Hendrickson
510.486.1495

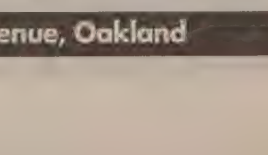


LOTS

Montclair \$399,000
Bay view homesite. Rare lvl-
dnslp on sought-after Jewel Ct.
Montclair's new development!
Peter & Ellen Nicolopoulos
510.339.4700



COLDWELL BANKER PROUDLY SUPPORTS
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY



1495 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley



6137 La Salle Avenue, Oakland

Sales

FROM PAGE B6

474 Vermont Av - \$838,000
624 Vincente Av - \$763,000
640 Vincente Av - \$801,000
2632 Warring St - \$436,500
1527 Woolsey St - \$551,000
2319 Woolsey St - \$675,500

EL CERRITO

5819 Alta Punta - \$490,000
817 Ashbury Av - \$540,000
540 Colusa Av - \$675,000
1402 Everett St - \$450,000
1015 Leneva Pl - \$854,000
1751 Liberty 202 - \$285,000
108 Seaview Dr - \$577,000
6614 Stockton Av - \$480,000
2055 Tapscott - \$680,000
2620 Tassajara - \$565,000
424 Village Dr - \$585,000

EL SOBRANTE

19 Appian Village - \$525,000
23 Appian Village - \$525,000
4124 Barranca Av - \$335,000
4761 Bruno Rd - \$589,000
1001 Canyon Creek - \$730,000
7 Christopher Ct - \$580,000
755 Kelvin Rd - \$437,000
3958 La Colina - \$405,000
4001 La Colina - \$455,000
5915 Monte Verde - \$400,000
5314 Ridgeview Cr 7 - \$205,000
5754 Robinhood Dr - \$479,000
4164 SP Dam Rd A - \$211,500
5029 SP Dam Rd A - \$248,000
4728 SP Dam Rd - \$415,000

5869 SP Dam Rd - \$390,000

EMERYVILLE

8 Admiral Dr A123 - \$340,000
6 Admiral Dr A490 - \$248,000
5855 Horton 414 - \$561,000

KENSINGTON

60 Arlington Ct - \$698,000
401 Beloit Av - \$570,000
295 Lexington - \$736,000
6 Sunset Tr - \$650,000

OAKLAND

1127 101st Av - \$340,000
391 105th Av - \$299,000
2101 108th Av - \$330,000
655 12th St 201 - \$457,000
655 12th St 204 - \$333,000
655 12th St 406 - \$385,500
655 12th St 411 - \$417,500
655 12th St 415 - \$306,500
655 12th St 417 - \$394,500
655 12th St 421 - \$310,000
2901 22nd Av - \$335,000
2504 23rd Av - \$425,000
2600 23rd Av - \$370,000
1933 24th Av - \$373,000
1912 25th Av - \$230,000
425 28th 201A - \$472,000
666 33rd St - \$340,000
1211 38th Av - \$340,000
2053 38th Av - \$388,000
2170 41st Av - \$400,000
2220 42nd Av - \$350,000
491 42nd St - \$495,000
830 43rd St - \$398,000
743 44th St - \$395,000
1234 50th Av - \$305,000
1240 53rd Av - \$242,500

1142 58th Av - \$295,000
3044 58th Av - \$458,000
590 62nd St - \$442,000
3324 64th Av - \$295,000
2227 65th Av - \$325,000
1825 67th Av - \$260,000
2468 67th Av - \$355,000
1250 78th Av - \$259,000
1071 83rd Av - \$420,000
1062 85th Av - \$240,000
1109 85th Av - \$530,000
1942 87th Av - \$278,000
1642 89th Av - \$319,000
2115 99th Av - \$355,000
57 Anair Wy - \$321,000
735 Appar St - \$375,000
1601 Arrowhead - \$710,000
7527 Arthur St - \$280,000
464 Ashton Av - \$305,000
6231 Avenal Av - \$338,000
47 Bay Forest Dr - \$975,000
4656 Benevides - \$675,000
30 Biehs Ct - \$645,000
5379 Broadway - \$411,000
4627 Brookdale - \$455,000
1067 Brookwood - \$771,500
6388 Buena Ventura - \$650,000
5902 Buena Vista - \$1,295,000
10418 Byron Av - \$361,000
9435 C St - \$360,000
260 Caldecott 103 - \$416,000
320 Caldecott 119 - \$310,000
700 Canyon Oaks A - \$285,000
750 Canyon Oaks A - \$365,000
5686 Carberry - \$545,000
3929 Cerrito Av - \$535,000
241 Chadbourne - \$600,000
1525 Chandler St - \$420,000
6024 Chelton Dr - \$600,000
6116 Chelton Dr - \$750,000
6800 Colton Bl - \$800,000
4267 Coolidge Av - \$868,000

288 Crestmont Dr - \$850,000
5914 Dover St - \$585,000
1880 Drake Dr - \$765,000
5700 East 15th St - \$410,000
5619 East 17th St - \$370,000
710 East 22nd St - \$270,000
1745 East 23rd - \$360,000
1365 East 32nd - \$485,000
9430 East St - \$328,000
5514 Edgerly St - \$330,500
4021 Edwards - \$355,000
3413 Elmwood Av - \$210,000
4015 Elston Av - \$605,000
6700 Estates Dr - \$700,000
5011 Fairfax Av - \$350,000
3109 Filbert St - \$400,000
763 Franklin 221 - \$280,000
9951 Gibraltar Rd - \$310,000
20 Glenwood Av - \$400,000
1809 Gouldin Rd - \$665,000
3542 Gray St - \$330,000
3451 Guido St - \$670,000
322 Hanover 202 - \$390,000
5202 Harbord Dr - \$694,000
4047 Harding Wy - \$682,000
2659 Harold St - \$435,000
3405 Helen St 11 - \$355,000
3405 Helen St 3 - \$344,000
3405 Helen St 7 - \$367,500
7950 Hillmont Dr - \$419,000
4335 Howe St - \$589,000
378 Hudson St - \$640,000
1836 International - \$425,000
10900 Julius St - \$200,000
5620 Kales Av - \$805,000
3857 Lakeshore - \$702,500
3507 Laurel St - \$330,000
1735 Leimert Bl - \$602,000
2556 Lilac St - \$410,000
1916 Linden St - \$275,000
4962 Mania Av - \$687,000
2020 Manzanita - \$735,000

2053 Manzanita - \$743,000
227 Marlow Dr - \$485,000
5665 Maxwellton - \$769,000
4061 Mera St B - \$554,000
7982 Michigan Av - \$508,000
1521 Mitchell St - \$315,000
3165 Monterey Bl - \$740,000
3330 Monterey Bl - \$811,000
2839 Morgan Av - \$484,000
5901 Morse Dr - \$495,000
5400 Mountain 320 - \$299,000
3213 Nicol Av - \$412,500
9742 Norgren St - \$372,000

11125 Novelda Cr
311 Oak St 23
311 Oak St 34
311 Oak St 736
311 Oak St 800
311 Oak St 800
424 Orange 110
936 Paramo
3718 Patterson
3936 Patterson
907 Poma

See SALES, P. 10

JUST SOLD

277 Alvarado Road

Berkeley

Originally Offered at \$2,150,000

I represented the buyer in a multiple offer situation.

If you would like me to represent you, please call today!

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Voice Mail: 510.433.2842
nancy.hinkley@prudential.com
342 Highland Ave., Piedmont



Prudential
California Realty

NEW LISTING • COMING SOON



Piedmont View Home
Price Available Upon Request

This old-fashioned home with quirky charm has a view that will take your breath away!

Offering three bedrooms and three bathrooms, there are also hardwood floors, built-ins and plus spaces, including window seats for the best view in the house. It also has an easy-care garden and private patio.

Utility undergrounding has been recently completed in the neighborhood. Architectural plans (not approved) are available to jump start any improvement projects.

Sherri W. Oakley
Piedmont Office
510.428.0900 (Office)
510.869.4784 (Voice/Cell)



Prudential
California Realty



Piedmont Craftsman
1327 Grand Avenue, Piedmont
Offered at \$969,000
Active Listing



Prudential
California Realty



Piedmont Traditional
81 Fairview, Piedmont
Offered at \$895,000
Coming September 12th

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ORINDA

\$2,645,000



EXQUISITE ORINDA TENNIS ESTATE. Traditional-style home with 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, gourmet kitchen, master suite. Fully fenced lighted tennis court, pool and spa. 1.57+/- acre of flat land.

LAFAYETTE

\$1,500,000



QUIET AND SERENE SETTING. Level lot offers you a chance to design and build to suit your dream home. Nestled in a Tahoe setting. Located in the Lafayette school district. Great find.

ORINDA

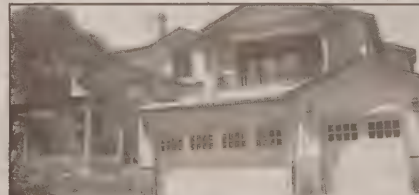
\$969,000



DON'T MISS. Lovely 4bd/3ba home with hardwood floors, updated kitchen with tile floors, central A/C, dual pane windows and views. Cul-de-sac location. Close to 12 years of schools. Sought after area.

MORAGA

\$2,295,000



NEW CONSTRUCTION. New custom home on 4.0+/- acres features 5 bedrooms, a gourmet kitchen and family room combo, elegant master bedroom suite, views and a big yard.

LAFAYETTE

\$1,450,000



ARCHITECTURAL MASTERPIECE. Gorgeous 1.0+/- acre lot with panoramic views. Backs to Briones. Zoned for horses. 5 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, custom built, 3850+/-sf home.

LAFAYETTE

\$825,000



PRIVACY AND VIEWS. 3bd/2ba home with updated kitchen, hardwood floors, dual pane windows, beamed ceiling and dramatic fireplace. Close to shopping and BART. Won't last.

WALNUT CREEK

\$2,100,000



PRIVATE & QUIET. Fabulous traditional-style home with 5 bedrooms plus great bonus room, 4.5 baths, 5000+/-sf and beautiful finishes. Lovely private court location in South Walnut Creek.

LAFAYETTE

\$989,000



INCREDIBLE ESTATE PROPERTY. Beautiful 3.8+/- acre estate with panoramic views, 3bd/2ba, walls of glass, pool, spa, patio, gorgeous grounds and custom floor plan. Custom built. Private setting.

OAKLAND

\$380,000



LUXURY HIGH-RISE. 1bd/2ba condo in the desirable Park Bellevue Building. New renovation with limestone, new carpet, new light cabinetry, granite slabs and fresh colors. Doorman, gym, pool and views.

apr.com | ORINDA 2 THEATER SQUARE 925.258.1111

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Hills Newspapers: Your number one source for up-to-date East Bay real estate information.

MAXWELL PARK

Open House
Sunday, Sept. 5th, 2 to 5 pm

It was last sold in 1948, and there are lots of good memories of those past 56 years. Now it's time for a new owner. Highlights of this spacious 2 bedroom home include formal dining plus breakfast room, refinished hardwood floors, fireplace and large kitchen. There is a great-sized rear yard with fig trees as a bonus.

John Forrest Bell
510/834-2010 Office
510/287-9856 VM
510/305-4014 Cell



2854 Modesto Avenue
Offered at \$424,900

Prudential
California Realty

JUST LISTED

Open House
Sunday, Sept. 5th, 1 to 5 pm

The Closest Thing to New Custom Construction

- 300 sq. ft. Gourmet Kitchen With Center Island, Granite Countertops, Cherry Wood Cabinets, Stainless Steel Appliances
- Large Living Room With Italian Tile Fireplace And New Brazilian Cherry Wood Floors
- 2 Master Bedrooms With Walk-in Closets And Sliding Doors To Deck And Patio Areas
- 2 1/2 Baths With Custom Cabinets And Tile
- Dual-pane Windows
- Large Private Yard With Lawn
- Much More

Ed Marshall
Montclair Office
Prudential California Realty
510.604.2095
edmarshall@yahoo.com



5839 Yale Ave., Richmond View
Offered at \$649,000

Prudential
California Realty

NEW LISTING

Open Sunday
2 until 5 pm

This tri-level contemporary home features 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, a fully equipped kitchen with adjoining breakfast room with high-sloped ceiling and 2 skylights, a formal dining area and living room with fireplace, floor-to-ceiling windows and sliding doors access the large L-shaped deck which provides a grand canyon vista. A huge rumpus room and full bath are located on lower level. This Tahoe-style retreat is surrounded by lush greenery, giant trees and is just minutes from the Montclair Village, Shepard Canyon Park and Interstate 13.

Contact:
Barbara Hopper
Prudential California Realty
(510) 845-0211
Voice Mail (510) 986-9553

6444 Westover Drive, Oakland
Offered at \$669,000
Virtual Tour:
www.Purealty.com/barbarahopper

www.Purealty.com/barbarahopper

PIEDMONT

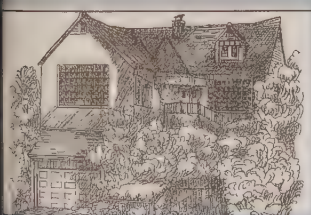
340 Hampton Road
\$1,195,000
Coming Soon

CHLOE PRIDAY MICHEL
Voice Mail: (510) 986-9487
Office: (510) 428-0900
Email: chloe.michels@purealty.com

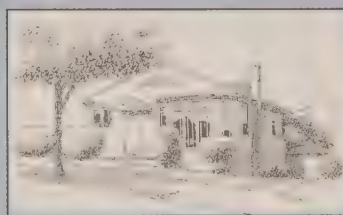


Prudential
California Realty

FEATURED HOMES



Rockridge Tudor **\$699,000**
2+BR with separate apartment,
2BR. Large lot.
Terrence Jue (510) 868-1471



Sunday 2-5 **\$424,900**
2854 Modesto. 2BR, FDR, Large
kitchen & breakfast room, hardwood
floors, large yard with figs.
John F. Bell (510) 834-2010

Piedmont

Sunday 2-4:30 **\$929,000**
Elegant 3BR, 2BA + stupendous view,
gourmet, great potential.
(925) 937-6050

Oakland

Oakmore **\$1,375,000**
New 5BR/3.5BA construction
gourmet touches.
(510) 339-9290

Sunday 2-4:30 **\$1,280,000**
#312. Rare opportunity.
3BR/2BA. Deck, fireplace.
(510) 868-1400

Sunday 2-4:30 **\$995,000**
Stunning. Stunning Bay views.
Stylish 4BR/3BA hilltop gem
from town.
(925) 283-7000

Sunday 2-4:30 **\$685,000**
Surrey Lane. Beautifully redone
3BA tri-level.
(510) 339-9290

Sunday 2-5 **\$669,000**
Wonderful hilltop
temporary 2+BR/3.5BA, family room.
(510) 845-0211

Sunday 2-4:30 **\$630,000**
Englewood. Single level 3BD/2BA
property. New listing!
(510) 339-9290

Sunday 2-4 **\$595,000**
Moraga Ave. Piedmont/Oakland
3BR/2BA. Large back yard.
(510) 845-0211

Oakland

Lake Merritt Luxury **\$425,000**
Remodeled spacious 2BR/2BA apt. over
1600 sq. ft., 24-hr security, attached
parking.
Caroline Slotemaker de Bruine
(510) 868-1454

Sunday 2-5 **\$420,000**
565 Bellevue Ave. #2204. 1BR/1BA pristine
condo. Views, amenities.
Amanda Aymar (510) 868-1400

Sunday 1-5 **\$399,000**
2980 107th Ave. 2BR/1BA pride of
ownership above 580.
Angela or Martin (510) 834-2010

Berkeley

North Berkeley **\$879,000**
3BR charmer, big yard, sunny kitchen,
move-in condition!
Chris Neddersen (510) 868-1400

Sunday 2-4:30 **\$529,000**
2129 Browning. 6 years, 3BR/2BA arts and
crafts bungalow. 1st open.
Vikki Landes (510) 339-9290

Sunday 1:30 - 4:30 **\$439,000**
1612 Derby. 2BR, 2BA cute cottage, needs
work.
Gaby Olander (510) 845-0211

Coming Soon **\$410,000**
Spotless 4BR/2BA remodeled kitchen &
bath, new roof, dual pane windows.
Lela Logene Butler (510) 868-1400

**Thinking of a Career
in Real Estate?**

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through our Real Estate Simulator!

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www.purealty.com/sim/hills

Berkeley

Coming Soon!
A Victorian with all the details. With studio,
large lot, 3BR, 1.5BA.
Candice/David (510) 868-1400

Contra Costa County

Sunday 1-5 **\$649,000**
5838 Yale, Richmond. Custom remodeled
2/2.5 in Richmond View.
Ed Marshall (510) 339-9290

Sunday 1-4 **\$579,900**
7249 Blake, El Cerrito. 3BR/1BA corner lot,
gardener's delight. Must see.
Ray Sharma (510) 527-9800

Contra Costa County

Sunday 1-4 **\$550,000**
6309 Jerilyn Ave., Richmond. 3BR/2BA,
spacious, Bay views.
Gloria Etting (510) 527-9800

Sunday 2-4 **\$450,000**
523 Ashbury, El Cerrito. 2BR/1BA.
Wonderful bungalow, large back yard.
Carmen Grim (510) 845-0211

Sunday 1-4 **\$285,000**
651 Moraga Rd., #4, Moraga. Beautiful
townhome, 1BR/1BA. Upgrades galore!
John Abbott (510) 219-6334

Golden Gate Views! **\$1,425,000**
Completely, lovingly remodeled.
4+BD/3BA Montclair view home.
Heidi Marchesotti (510) 339-9290

Residential Income

Sunday 2-4:30 **\$549,000**
6429-31 Outlook, Oakland. Spacious
duplex. 2+BR/1BA and 2/1. Owner
occupied.
Janet Flint (510) 339-9290

Victorian Duplex **\$499,000**
Superb remodel! Two 2+BR/2BA and two
non-conforming. Fine work throughout.
Garage. Ideal for all.
Cynthia Zheng (510) 428-0900

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and challenging career?**

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800-499-5551

open home virtual album

AMENITA 510-337-8670 **BERKELEY REGIONAL** 510-868-1400 **CLAREMONT** 510-845-0211 **EL CERRITO** 510-527-9800 **GRAND LAKE** 510-834-2010 **MONTCLAIR** 510-339-9290 **PIEDMONT** 510-428-0900

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Sales

FROM PAGE B10

2452 Potter St - \$450,000
2601 Rawson St - \$642,000
4606 Redding St - \$400,000
3236 Revere Av - \$630,000
2645 Ritchie St - \$360,000
6301 Roanoke - \$665,000
6660 Saroni Dr - \$690,000
62 Schooner Hill - \$1,041,500
67 Schooner Hill - \$745,000
5805 Seminary Ct - \$340,000
4669 Sequoyah - \$1,000,000
3250 Sheffield Av - \$490,500
6023 Skyline Bl - \$1,725,000
3615 Suter St - \$275,000
4261 Suter St - \$370,000
4811 Telegraph 202 - \$505,000
4811 Telegraph 205 - \$370,000
4811 Telegraph 503 - \$450,500
4146 Terrace St - \$550,000
21 Town Square Pl - \$329,000
9504 Walnut St - \$290,000
1015 Warfield Av - \$840,000
866 Warfield Av - \$645,000
7126 Weld St - \$355,000
7 W. Em'adero 117 - \$228,000
250 Whitmore 111 - \$240,000
507 Wickson 103 - \$215,000
3707 Woodruff Av - \$560,000
16 Woodside Glen - \$959,000
811 York St 117 - \$465,000

PIEDMONT

504 Boulevard Wy - \$600,000
37 Greenbank Av - \$861,000
308 Pala Av - \$1,650,000
103 Ramona Av - \$820,000
204 Ramona Av - \$890,000
312 Scenic Av - \$960,000
129 St. James - \$1,200,000

RICHMOND

861 10th St - \$250,000
648 15th St A - \$421,000
243 1st St - \$410,000
549 26th St - \$450,000
245 3rd St - \$270,000
1734 4th St - \$360,000
458 5th St - \$380,000
556 6th St - \$345,000
756 6th St - \$260,000
626 Alamo Av - \$300,000
2502 Beach Head - \$337,000
3615 Bissell Av - \$300,000
608 Bradford Dr - \$377,000
5149 Coach Dr - \$592,000
4019 Coleman Cr - \$610,000
5102 Cypress Av - \$396,000
2880 Esmond Av - \$325,500
3024 Florida Av - \$350,000
4237 Florida Av - \$339,000
1312 Greenway - \$465,000
2535 Groveview - \$345,000
2784 Jo Ann Dr - \$318,000
6356 Kensington Av - \$670,000
2134 Lincoln Av - \$345,000

412 Marine St - \$276,000
878 McLaughlin St - \$605,000
869 Meadow View - \$711,000
875 Meadow View - \$625,000
888 Meadow View - \$600,000
1672 Mendocino St - \$398,000
863 Mulberry Pl - \$708,000
1044 Myrtlewood - \$471,000
1413 Nevin Plz - \$244,000
222 Pennsylvania - \$273,000
1500 Placer St - \$530,000
5301 Poinsett Av - \$350,000
1011 Redhawk Ct - \$433,000
1627 San Benito St - \$600,000

1518 Santa Clara - \$460,000
3123 Sheldon Dr - \$445,000
415 Silver Av - \$340,000
631 Sonoma St - \$450,000
108 South 20th - \$270,000
654 South 20th - \$180,000
332 South 24th - \$400,000
126 South 37th - \$335,000
266 South 45th - \$358,000
549 South 49th - \$360,000
124 South 4th - \$275,000
232 South 4th - \$274,000
1001 View Dr - \$430,000
973 View Dr - \$400,000

2119 Visalia Av - \$352,000
2210 Visalia Av - \$390,000
3820 Waller Av - \$284,000

SAN LEANDRO

1186 139th Av - \$371,000
1665 141st St - \$445,000
1525 168th Av - \$510,000
1040 Adason Dr - \$449,000
498 Alvarado St - \$760,000
15660 Baypoint - \$685,000
2490 Blackpool - \$441,000

1837 Bokwood - \$445,000
238 Bristol Bl - \$445,000
15540 Budge - \$445,000
1423 Castro St - \$445,000
1128 Coburn Cr - \$445,000
63 Cornwall Wy - \$445,000
2426 Croyden Cr - \$445,000
305 Dutton Av - \$445,000
54 Dutton Av - \$445,000
15201 Edgemoor - \$445,000
738 Elsie Av - \$445,000

New Rockridge Listing!

OPEN SUNDAY, SEPT 5TH, 2-4:30PM



5290 Broadway Terrace #202

Rockridge spacious Contemporary condo with Bay view
2 bedrooms, 2 baths • Great storage and closets
1 parking space in garage

Offered at \$439,000

Ashley Wilcox O'Neill

Senior Sales Associate

(510) 338-1368



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89 Arlington Avenue

A serene setting in friendly Kensington neighborhood & spacious eat-in kitchen open to a generous yard! 3 bedrooms/2 baths

\$599,000

Find Me On The Web At: www.ThornwallProperties.com

THORNWALL
Properties

Kathryn Hill

Real Estate Broker

(510) 848-1111

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

BERKELEY 828 Channing Way
3 bed/1 bath, Large lot \$425,000

EL SOBRANTE

1041 Trailside Dr.
4 bd/2 ba. Fab. open space!
Price Reduced to \$700,000

BERKELEY

1703-1705 Milvia
Investors! Duplex in prime location \$738,000.

FLAT FEE \$6,950 FULL SERVICE

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Help-U-Sell Berkeley Properties

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5810 Ray Street, El Cerrito

Peaceful retreat on cul-de-sac. Master suite opens to deck, 2 family b's, 2 baths, spacious living room w/bay windows, formal dining room, family room with stone fireplace and wood-beam ceilings. Surrounded by mature trees. \$635,000
Open Sunday 2-4 pm



Todd Hodson

Marvin Gardens Real Estate

El Cerrito Office

910-222-8870

Veneta, CA

510-848-0340



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Real Estate Brokerage

3223 Blume Drive, Richmond
510-222-8870

<http://www.spre.com>

EL CERRITO

GREAT HOUSE NEAR DEL NORTE BART \$398,000

2BR 1BA 1 car att. garage, new paint and refurbished hardwood floors, private and attractive back yard.

#40036348

Margrith Byer

510-235-0243

CUTE BUNGALOW IN CENTRAL EL CERRITO \$399,500

2 BR 1 BA home w/fireplace in living rm, updated kitchen, beautifully landscaped, attached 1 car garage, ceiling fans in dining rm and bedrooms. #40033636

Paul Triplett

510-612-1823

SUPER HOME NEAR FATAPPLES \$549,950

Back on the Market, Buyer was transferred! Don't miss this opportunity! 3BR 1BA almost 1400 sq. ft., hardwood floors, cozy fireplace, 1 car attached garage, remodeled kitchen, beautiful gardens. #40032991

Gary Torretta

510-758-5550

GREAT TRI-LEVEL NEAR FATAPPLES \$650,000

Plank hardwood floors, 3 BR, 2 BA, fireplace, formal dining room, 1-car attached garage, manicured landscaping, and views! #40033204

Pat Prendaville

510-851-4663

RICHMOND VIEW

PANORAMIC VIEWS! \$349,950

2BR 1BA 1 car att. garage, value is in the land!

#40037421

Gary Torretta

510-758-5550

ESTATE SALE! LOADED WITH CHARM \$399,950

2BR 1BA, 1 car detached garage, great location, fireplace, formal dining room, eat-in kitchen, almost 1200 sq. ft. #40035648

Gary Torretta

510-758-5550

BERKELEY

DO YOU NEED A LOT OF SPACE? \$699,000

6BR 2BA over 2400 sq. ft., fireplace, off-street parking, needs TLC, hardwood floors under carpet. #40031909

Ken Rogai

510-303-7113

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CONTRA COSTA TIMES MORTGAGE GUIDE

www.mtgeinfo.com/cct

Market Indicator*						Rates as of 8/31/04	
COMPANY	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	COMMENTS	
Santelli & Associates	30-yr Fixed 5.500 0.000 5.590 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875 0.000 5.914 30	3/1 ARM 4.000 0.000 4.082 30	3/1 ARM* 1.250* 0.000 4.749 30		OPEN WEEKENDS / 0 POINTS-0 COSTS INTEREST ONLY/0 DOWN PAYMENT APPLY ONLINE AT www.loanagencies.com	
Saratoga Bancorp	30-yr Fixed 5.625 0.000 5.584 45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875 0.000 5.904 45	15-yr Fixed 5.125 0.000 5.223 45	5/1 ARM 4.625 0.000 4.860 45		Good or Bad Credit. Cash in 7 days No Income Check Loans! 1st or 2nd Mortgage Purt/Refi to 100% saratogabancorp.com	
Verstar Financial	30-yr Fixed 5.625 0.000 5.718 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875 0.000 5.915 30	7/1 ARM Jumbo 5.125 0.000 5.163 30	Jumbo 1month Libor 5.625 0.000 2.734 30		Ask us about our 0 point. 0 fee programs Will beat any bank's rates 7 days a week 100% equity lines, and commercial loans	
Washington Mutual Bank	30-yr Fixed call	30-yr Fxd Jumbo call	3/1 ARM call	5/1 ARM call		Purchase Specials! 5 day closing points Complimentary pre-appraisal Available 7 days a week inc evenings	
A Superior Mortgage	30-yr Fixed 5.500 0.000 5.670 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875 0.000 5.990 30	15-yr Fixed 4.875 0.000 4.950 30	5/1 ARM 4.500 0.000 4.610 30		Open weekends. Credit problems OK "Apply online" www.superior-mtg.net	
AAA Mortgage	30-yr Fixed 5.500 0.000 5.590 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750 0.000 5.789 30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 3.875 0.000 3.910 30	5/1 ARM 4.500 0.000 4.537 30		95% CONSTRUCTION LOANS TO \$1 MIL APPLY OVER THE PHONE GET PRE-APPROVED OVER THE PHONE	
AlmLoan.com	30-yr Fixed 5.500 0.125 5.585 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750 0.375 5.815 30	15-yr Fixed 4.750 0.500 5.949 30	5/1 ARM 4.500 0.250 4.701 30		Apply and lock online 24/7 Open Sat. and Sun from 9am to 2pm. Rates and Fees Posted Online Daily	
Amerisave Mortgage Corp.	30-yr Fixed 5.375 0.000 5.451 45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.625 0.000 5.658 45	3/1 ARM 3.750 0.000 4.630 45	5/1 ARM 4.375 0.000 4.732 45		*APR includes bank fee. 745 FICO www.amerisave.com Best rates and lowest fees guaranteed or we pay you \$300	
Bay Area Funding	30-yr Fixed 5.375 1.000 5.583 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.625 1.000 5.788 30	1st Time Buyer 30 4.250 1.000 4.445 30	1st Time Buyer 5/1 3.250* 1.000 3.434 30		1stTimeBUYER \$100 LOWEST PMT. 2.00% *1st TIME BUYER 30 YR Fxd after Fed Subsidy. Income & price limits 100%OK	
BayCal Financial Corp.	30-yr Fixed 5.250 1.000 5.451 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.625 1.250 5.788 30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.500 0.000 4.546 30	3/1 ARM 3.875 0.000 3.929 30		100% Home Financing Programs up to 1M. Interest Only to 2 Mil. 6 MOS. 3/1 5/1 *80 Days Lock. NEMFI (Purchased from Bank)	
Buckingham Mte. Corp.	30-yr Fixed 5.625 0.000 5.685 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750 0.000 5.858 30	3/1 ARM 4.000 0.250 3.986 30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.625 0.000 4.210 30		7/1 5.12% 4.78 APR. 10/1 5.5% 4.98 APR. No Income No Down 25% DOWN California Jumbo Wholesalers	
Cal First Lending	30-yr Fixed 5.250 1.000 5.413 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875 0.000 5.908 30	15-yr Fixed 4.625 1.000 4.782 30	5/1 ARM 4.500 1.500 4.658 30		FAST APPROVAL. ZERO DOWN PAYMENT BAD CREDIT & BK. OK. NO CLOSING COSTS OPEN EVENING & WEEKENDS. CALL 877-444-4444	
Cal-State Funding	30-yr Fixed 5.500 0.000 5.540 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875 0.000 5.910 30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 4.500 0.000 4.590 30	5/1 ARM 4.750 0.000 4.790 30		We can FUND you! Just ask us why. Call for latest rates. Ask about our INTEREST ONLY Loans	
CMG Mortgage Services	30-yr Fixed 5.250 1.375 5.437 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.625 1.000 5.756 30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 3.625 1.375 3.762 30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.250 1.250 4.381 30		Open Sat & Sun. Quick Qualifier & stated income. Income options available. Credit Problems OK	
Countrywide Home Loans	30-yr Fixed call	30-yr Fxd Jumbo call	10/1 ARM Jumbo call	12 Mo Fxd Pay I/O call		10 GUARANTEE CLOSING ON PURCHASES 100% FINANCING. LESS PAPERWORK FREE PRE-APPROVAL FOR PURCHASES	
Custom Mtge Solutions	30-yr Fixed 5.125 2.000 5.290 35	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.500 1.000 5.550 35	15-yr Fixed 4.375 2.000 4.590 35	COFI 30 yr ARM** 1.250* 0.000 3.940 60		Direct lender. 45 yrs experience. fixed & adjust rate mtgs. *Pot. neg. amort. Apply online at www.downysavings.com	
ditech.com	30-yr Fixed 5.250 2.000 5.550 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.500 2.000 5.747 30	15-yr Fixed 4.500 2.000 5.003 30	15-yr Fxd Jumbo 4.875 2.000 5.288 30		Apply online at www.ditech.com -Your mortgage solution. Delivered!	
Downey Savings & Loan	30-yr Fixed 5.250 2.000 5.458 45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000 0.250 6.037 45	1-mo COFI ARM* 1.250* 1.000 4.540 45				
First Blackhawk Financial	30-yr Fixed 5.500 0.000 5.590 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750 0.000 5.789 30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.625 0.000 4.662 30	3/1 ARM 4.000 0.000 4.035 30		JUMBO AND SUPER JUMBO SPECIALS more rates at margrith.com Call 7 days wk might@1stblackhawk.com	
796-MARY	30-yr Fixed 5.625 0.000 5.648 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo call	15-yr Fixed 5.000 0.000 5.039 30	1-yr ARM Jumbo 3.875 0.000 4.723 30		Call Fremont Bank for full product terms & conditions. HELCO rates always below prime. Apply online www.fremontbank.com	
Golden Gate Home Loans	30-yr Fixed call	30-yr Fxd Jumbo call	15-yr Fixed call	5/1 ARM Jumbo call		100% financing. No Income Verification! 100% non-owner, coastal loans, lot loans! open 8:00AM - 8:00PM, 7-days a week!	
Imperial Mortgage	30-yr Fixed 5.375 1.000 5.570 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.625 1.000 5.820 30	5/1 Interest only 4.500 1.000 4.890 30	No 5 Dwn 30-yr Fxd 6.450 1.000 6.710 30		DON'T BE "LURED IN" BY LOW QUOTES! FOR A HONEST, LOCKABLE RATE! WHY I GET TONS OF REFERRALS	
Matrix Investment Corp.	30-yr Fixed 5.125 1.750 5.348 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.375 1.930 5.533 30	15-yr Fixed 4.375 1.990 4.861 30	1-yr ARM 2.875 0.500 4.602 30		Bad Credit, Brokers, & Commercial Loans Welcome! www.matrixinvestments.com	
Mortgage Market	30-yr Fixed 5.750 0.000 5.842 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875 0.000 5.967 30	15-yr Fixed 5.250 0.000 5.402 30	5/1 ARM 5.000 0.000 5.911 30		Great Purchase. Refinance. Construction. Home Equity. 100% LTV Loans Great service. Over 20 years experience	
Mortgage World	30-yr Fixed 5.375 0.500 5.536 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.500 1.000 5.641 30	1-yr ARM 3.125 0.000 3.227 30	Commercial APART MIXED call SBA		Bad Credit BK OK UP TO 10% CASH NOW NO INCOME ASSET. JOB LOANS AVAILABLE SE HABLA ESPANOL. NO COST HOME EQUITY	
Northern Mutual Corp.	30-yr Fixed call	30-yr Fxd Jumbo call	6 month ARM call			WOW! NO ADD-ON FOR JUMBO LOANS! No-Point loans are avail! *3yr pp 80% LTV E-mail Steve@northernmutual.com	
Pacific West Financial	30-yr Fixed 5.500 0.000 5.604 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875 0.000 5.921 30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.750 0.000 4.793 30	3/1 ARM 4.000 0.000 4.095 30		Se Habla Espanol/No Doc Loans! 103% purchase/Credit problems OK Interest Only Loans/BK OK	</

15925 Maubert Dr - \$330,000
 1077 Mersey Av - \$410,000
 1329 Mersey Av - \$450,000
 2038 Nome St - \$420,000
 2259 Oceanview - \$650,000
 1519 Sayre St - \$470,000
 189 Stoakes Av - \$460,000
 13837 Tahiti Rd - \$495,000
 933 Victoria Av - \$400,000
 678 Victoria Ct - \$650,000
 569 Warden Av - \$445,000
 771 Warden Av - \$486,000
 14925 Western - \$200,000
 2219 Woodduck - \$542,000

SAN LORENZO
 322 Hacienda Av - \$424,000

209 Loma Verde Dr - \$330,000
 15861 Via Arroyo - \$455,000
 17328 Via Chiquita - \$446,000
 15949 Via Del Sol - \$425,000
 16015 Via Harriet - \$430,000
 17352 Via Julia - \$490,000
 16011 Via Paro - \$430,000
 17033 Via Piedras - \$460,000
 17064 Via Piedras - \$480,000
 15810 Via Pinal - \$428,000
 1885 Via Rancho - \$485,000
 16020 Via Segundo - \$449,000
 17579 Wickman Pl - \$347,000
 17637 Wickman Pl - \$355,000

See SALES, Page B14



Oakmore

2049 Bywood Drive, Oakland

Wonderful Traditional with spectacular S.F. and Bay Bridge Views. 4 Bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, hardwood floors. Large front and back yards. Light and bright, sunny setting.

Offered at \$949,000



Norm Robinow

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RICHMOND
TOTAL SALES: 55
LOWEST PRICE: \$180,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$711,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$360,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$400,773

SAN LEANDRO
TOTAL SALES: 45
LOWEST PRICE: \$200,000

HIGHEST PRICE: \$760,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$455,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$469,867

SAN LORENZO
TOTAL SALES: 15
LOWEST PRICE: \$330,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$490,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$430,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$428,933

This list is provided by California Resource, a real estate information company that obtains the information from the County Recorder's Office. Neither California Resource nor this newspaper guarantees the completeness or accuracy of the information.
All questions should be directed to CalResource@aol.com.
Call 209-365-6663.

Coming Soon In Lafayette



This elegant jewel of a home emphasizes Frank Lloyd Wright's prairie-style architectural concept. Lush lawns, flowers & blooming trees are part of this 5 BDRM, 3.5 BTH home. A chef's kitchen and lg adjoining fam rm with granite fireplace & hwdw flrs. Expansive master suite w/ frplc & huge en suite bath is a complete luxury. Form. din rm, lg liv rm each with frplc. There is an au pair/in-law qtrs downstairs with its own entrance. Approx. 3,859 sq. ft.

Price Upon Request



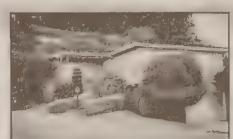
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3 New Listings



728 Geiston Place, El Cerrito
#188 - MAGNIFICENT Panoramic Bay views in spacious 3BD, 2.5BA. Features large living room, dining area, kitchen w/breakfast room, family/play room, double garage w/workshop.
Priced at \$825,000



3972 Seimi Grove, Richmond
#274 - Add comfort & style to your family life. Enjoy this country club setting of Luxury new homes noted for its outstanding value. Visit it & discover this perfect huge lot home to raise a family & pets, while having a whole lot of fun. Gourmet kitchen, gleaming hardwood floors & cozy fireplace.
\$588,888



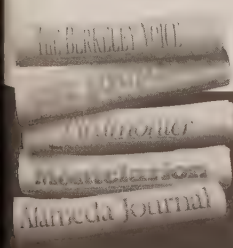
5049 Hilltop Dr., El Sobrante
#215 - Great 3BD 2BA starter home with lots of potential. Bonus room in basement, plus lots of storage. Huge garage for 3 cars and has a large workshop. Must see.
\$425,000

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HILLS NEWSPAPERS AUTO PLUS

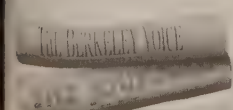
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Acura RSX makes shifting much more enjoyable
Hills Auto Directory

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MORAGA



MORAGA
Beautiful / private setting on approx. 5.06 ac lot. Very contemporary home with 4 BR / 3 BA. Approx. 2693 sq. ft. Only 13-years old. Views of the hills and valley. Top rated Moraga schools. Rural area yet still is convenient to shopping, schools, and freeway.
Sandia Han
(925)935-9100

ORINDA



ORINDA
Fabulous views from the large lot. Incredible upgrades include 2 master bedroom suites with whirlpool bath. Heated tile floor, fireplace in one and access to outside hot tub from other suite. Imported bath tiling. Stunning parquet flooring. Built-in granite wet bar, and home office.
Paul Slichter
(925)455-0505

MONTCLAIR



7955 SKYLINE BLVD
Stunning, new traditional on approx. 1/2 ac+. Level yard, privacy. Marvelous maple floors & cabinetry. Delightful details such as hand carved stone fireplaces. Creative decks. Light filled rooms include media room, family room, and home office.
Anida Weyl
(510)339-8900

BERKELEY



1306 3RD
Rare opportunity to own a piece of Berkeley history! This warehouse space consists of 4 units plus huge open area. Close to the Southern Pacific tracks. This is an "up and coming" area.
Miriam Wilson
(510)339-8900

MONTCLAIR



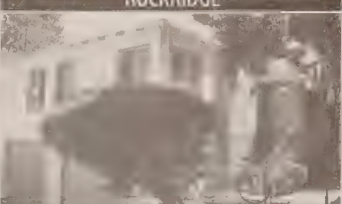
6595 LONGWALK DR.
Piedmont Pine spacious home with newly remodeled kitchen. Private rear deck overlooks a wooded glade. 4 BR / 2 BA. Formal dining room, family room with wet bar, office. Within walking distance to Redwood Regional Park.
Helen Nicholas
(510)339-8900

BERKELEY



1515 ASHBY AVE. OPEN SUN 2-5:00PM
Darling Victorian with big level yard. Inlaid hardwood floors, high ceilings and much original detail. 3 ++ BR / 2 BA. Rec. room. Lots of storage. Formal dining room. Eat-in kitchen.
Anida Weyl
(510)339-8900

ROCKRIDGE



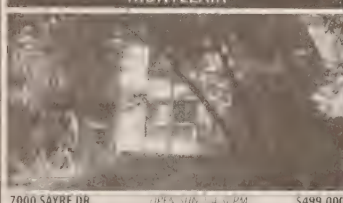
405-407 ALCATRAZ AVE.
Duplex - side by side one level units just 3 blocks to College Ave. Each features 2 BR / 1 BA. Fireplace, separate laundry, 1 garage space / 1 driveway space. Hardwood floors. Pleasant level backyard.
Helen Nicholas
(510)339-8900

CASTRO VALLEY



3215 KERR ST.
2 blocks to Castro Valley BART. 1 level home with parking and 2-car garage. Fenced yard. Move-in ready on corner lot.
Lois Johnson
(510)339-8900

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7000 SAYRE DR. OPEN SUN 2-5:00PM
A fine fixer! Large, private home ready for upgrades, repairs, and creativity. Gorgeous park-like yard with winding paths among oaks, maples, and bays. "Great room." Family room. Office, shop.
Andrea Gordon Sprague
(510)339-8900

MONTCLAIR



7028 HOMEWOOD DR. OPEN SUN 2-5:00PM
New Listing! Beautifully remodeled. New gas & tile kitchen and bath. Hardwood flooring. 2 BR plus 2 bonus rooms. Entire lot is nearly level front and back. Attached carport, storage, and off St. parking.
Hal Castle
(510)339-8900

OAKLAND



ORMINDALE COURT
Land of the free. 4 prime Montclair Hills lots. Spectacular bay views. Develop 1 or all 4. Homes in the area are over \$1 million plus. Go for the gold. Motivated seller.
Cindy Boze
(510)339-8900

LINCOLN HEIGHTS



2830 MORGAN AVE.
Lincoln Heights charmer! Matchstick hardwood floors. Updated kitchen. Cozy living room with fireplace. Detached office/studio.
Jody Dworzak
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CASTRO VALLEY
19548 Eagle Street
Absolutely gorgeous new listing! Updated throughout. 4 bedrooms, 3 baths. Approximately 2574 sq. ft. Remodeled kitchen and baths. New interior paint. New carpet. New front landscaping. Huge bonus / theater room downstairs. In-law set up. 800 sq. ft. shop.
Denise Ivaldi
(925)314-1500

MONTCLAIR HILLS
Beautiful lots in the Montclair hills. Ideal for interested buyers and developers. 30+ years experience in real estate and development that sells!
Mel Copland
(510)339-8900

HAYWARD PENDING
22530 Third Street #304
This 3 BR / 2 BA condo is absolutely stunning. Resort style grounds. Serene as an ocean view. Beautiful custom window treatment.
Sheila Brox Crawford
(510)339-8900

OAKLAND
Charing Cross Road
Spectacular opportunity to live or build in coveted Hiller Highlands! Land is on a downslope. Approx. 7594 square feet. Beautiful and tranquil view of the canyon. Located in upscale established neighborhood. A must see!
Mary Burns
(510)339-8900

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19 Villanova Lane
OPEN SUN 2-4:30PM
Views that are unsurpassed of San Francisco, Golden Gate and Bay Bridge. Headlands, and to San Mateo. Gorgeous with voluminous living room, formal dining, eat-in kitchen with a courtyard. 3 bedrooms + den. 2 1/2 baths.
Helen Nicholas

\$899,000

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- **110 Santa Ines St., San Pablo**
3 BD/2.5 BA 3 month new
\$479,000
- **1927 Gaspar Dr., Oakland**
3BD/2BA, view, 2-car gar.
\$620,000
- **1373 Fountain St., Alameda**
Sold in 12 days seller saved **\$22,390**
- **10120 Foxboro Circle, San Ramon**
Sold in 14 days seller saved **\$25,390**

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OPEN SUNDAY 2-4
771 - 54th ST., OAKLAND. TRIPLEX.
7 bedrooms, 4 baths. Approximately 2750 sq. ft. Fenced yard. Near Children's Hospital, BART, downtown Oakland & UCB.
\$549,000. Jim Nations. 510-301-4004.

OPEN SAT & SUN 2-4
3154 COLLEGE #3, BERKELEY. Urban living at its best! Centrally located in the desirable Elwood area. Spacious 1 bedroom condo. Fully upgraded & remodeled, gourmet kitchen, private deck & parking. Near shops & transportation. \$420,000. Angela McIntyre. 510-377-7733.

OPEN SAT & SUN 2-4
55 LA PALOMA CT., EL SOBRANTE. BRAND NEW HOME. Classic Tuscan Villa style with 5 bedrooms, 3 baths. Luxurious appointments throughout. Hardwood, marble, Berber floors. 2 story entry, formal living/dining room, family room, 2 fireplaces. \$729,000. The Bosoras. 510-748-1166 or Español, 510-748-1167.

OPEN SATURDAY 1-4
1495 BROOKSIDE DR., SAN LEANDRO. DELIGHTFUL HOME ON CORNER LOT. Large fenced in backyard with kids play structure, garden area & fruit tree. 3 bedrooms, upgraded bath, hardwood floors & bright eat-in kitchen. \$430,000. The Freemans. 510-228-5201.

2 VETERAN WAY, OAKLAND. Charming 2+ bedroom, 1.5 bath Mediterranean in delightful storybook cul-de-sac. Formal dining room, breakfast room, inglenook, study, walled low maintenance garden on corner lot. \$595,000. Sheila McNeill. 510-748-1137.

2560 INTERNATIONAL BLVD., OAKLAND. COMMERCIAL RETAIL STORE FRONT. Plus a 2 bedroom, 1 bath unit on the 2nd story. Completely remodeled building with new bath, electrical, plumbing, painting, etc. \$738,000. Moon Tam. 510-747-1620.

838 22nd STREET, OAKLAND. WEST OAKLAND. A great starter home or investment property with 4+ bedrooms, 2 baths. Close to schools, shopping & freeway. \$295,000. Anne DeBardleben. 510-748-1175.

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Lovely El Cerrito brown shingle close to Fat Apples, Colusa Circle, the new Plaza and BART! Bay/SF views, 2+BD/1BA, gleaming hardwood floors, fireplace in living room, attached garage, split-level layout and a big sunny backyard!

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Oakland

Commercial Industrial space for lease. 1237 East 12th St. \$2,300 month plus utilities. Light industrial warehouse or shop with mezzanine. Approx. 2,600 sq. ft. Garage included, private entrance, ground floor. Rich 510-814-4802

\$225,000 0 Burr St. Large lot with Bay & hill views! Zoned for multiple units or build your dream home. Close to Bishop O'Dowd. Call today! Donnaluci 510-814-4826

\$247,000 811 York Street, #235, Oakland. 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, remodeled condo. New tile and new carpet in bedroom. Call 510-814-4865

\$379,000 2630 55th Ave. 2 bedroom, 1 bath home in move-in condition w/updated kitchen & bath, separate laundry room, private yard detached garage. Jane 510-814-4810

\$499,900 311 Oak Street #C4. New building w/200 residential units sold out. 3 comm spaces on ground floor, 2 stores open soon. Ideal for conv. stores or office. Eunice 510-814-4892

\$575,000 10335 Bancroft Avenue. 4 Units: 2-2 bedroom, 1 bath units: 2-1 bedroom, 1 bath units. All with a parking space. Well-maintained units. roof 4-5 years old. Bev & George 510-814-4830

\$750,000 3839 Midvale Ave. 3 Units: 2-3 bd/2 ba, 1-2 bd/1ba. Spacious units, well maintained. Long term tenants Shared backyard. Nina 510-814-4836

\$800,000 718-22 Henry Street 5 Units, 3 buildings on 1 lot—2 duplexes & 1 single family. Close to BART & freeway. Jeff 510-814-4885

Berkeley

\$65,000 Berkeley Shattuck Avenue. \$24,000. James 510-814-4826

Richmond

\$250,000 800 Wharf Street handcrafted floating home. 4 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, hull 68' x 24'. Great detail. Some. Rich 510-814-4802

San Leandro

\$350,000 14652 Outing bedroom, 2 bath. Freshly painted. 510-814-4892

\$490,000 2171 Altamont bedroom, 2 bath. Plus room. Most workshop. updated kitchen. Dense 510-814-4877

\$585,000 15639 Anchorage bedroom, 2.5 bath family room in kitchen area. In family room. Come to see. 510-814-4840

\$599,950 1625 Magnolia bedroom, 2.5 bath. fireplace. 510-814-4826

\$1,350,000 1475 159th Ave Residential Income! Eyring 1 bath units all on the ground. one 3 bedroom home w/1000 sq ft. 3/4 acre. 4 books to BART. center. Bev & George 510-814-4836

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MONTCLAIR \$679,000

2024 Drake Drive

Exceptional 3+ BD, 3 BA Montclair Ranch Traditional with plank hardwood floors, charming details, and great open spaces. Living and dining areas have access to decks; perfect for entertaining. Plus room perfect for additional family room, rec room or teen retreat. Landscaped and private level yards!

Nahid Nassiri 510-339-4550

MONTCLAIR \$1,395,000

Spectacular 3 BD/ 4.5 BA custom built contemporary in beautiful Montclair hills. Handmade mahogany marble, and granite detailing throughout. Chef's kitchen with adjoining family room. Grand gallery entrance, living room, formal dining room and bedroom suites; elegance abounds!

Nahid Nassiri 510-339-4550

LAKESHORE TERRACE \$630,000

Lakeshore Terrace contemporary craftsman with city views, spacious floor plan, formal living room w/fireplace, FDR, updated kitchen, HWF floors throughout, deck, landscaped.

Ken Nwokedi 510-339-4000

MONTCLAIR \$595,000

3 BR, 2 BA Montclair Traditional in secluded wooded setting. Living room has hardwood floors, fireplace, and upper deck access for indoor/outdoor entertaining, family/plus room for movie nights or home office.

Nahid Nassiri 510-339-4550

OAKLAND \$599,000

4060 Harding Way

Just listed! Wonderful home with a great floorplan. New kitchen and baths, stunning garden views from every window. Big yard, deep crown moldings and french doors throughout. Quiet street. See virtual tour at: PatriciaBennett.com

PatriciaBennett.com 510-482-9000

OAKLAND \$227,000

385 Jayne Street #111

Just Listed! Very nice 1 bedroom/ 1 bath unit with balcony in desirable building. Pool in complex. Shows Beautifully!

Karen Mai 510-339-4000

By Appointment

MONTCLAIR \$979,000

3 BD, 3.5 BA completely remodeled Montclair Traditional with HWF, great details & upgrades. LR, FDR, gorgeous cooks kitchen/family room. Landscaped and private yards!

Nahid Nassiri 510-339-4550

OAKMORE \$960,000

Stunning Spanish Mediterranean with soaring Bay views, 2 suites with private baths, sunken living room, chef's kitchen; spacious in-law with separate entrance, located on quiet cul-de-sac.

Ken Nwokedi 510-339-4000

SAN LEANDRO \$589,000

Stunning 4/2 in San Leandro North Area. High-end upgrades bring European flair to this 1930's classic. Gorgeous baths, kitchen, floors, walls, everything!

EarleShenk.com 510-220-6407

GLENVIEW \$499,000

Adorable 2 BD, 1 BA Glenview Cottage with lush gardens and inviting covered porch. Great detailing throughout with hardwood floors, crown molding built in cabinets and bookshelves. Living room and formal dining room charm, while the secluded backyard and hot tub offer a relaxing retreat!

Nahid Nassiri 510-339-4550

OAKLAND \$349,000

3+ BR/1.5 BA, living room with wood burning fireplace, formal dining room, attached garage. Location near transportation and shopping.

Rochelle Anthony 510-339-4000

OAKLAND \$799,000

2014 Clemens Road

Stunning Traditional, ready to move in! Master suite, new kitchen, updated baths and a lovely park-like yard. Bay view, with spacious rooms, home office, new kitchen and spectacular yard! See virtual tour at: PatriciaBennett.com

PatriciaBennett.com 510-482-9000

OAKLAND \$649,900

3015 Roxbury Avenue

Sheffield Village classic. Master suite and family room addition, gleaming floors, workshop and large bonus room, even waterfalls! Very special! View this home at: EarleShenk.com

EarleShenk.com 510-220-6407

PIEDMONT \$1,598,000

Spectacular 5+ BR, 4 BA contemporary

in Piedmont featuring wood beamed vaulted ceilings and oversized windows for plenty of natural light. Great space for entertaining with open living room and formal dining room, huge family room and recreation room, music room, home gym, office and more!

Nahid Nassiri 510-339-4550

MONTCLAIR \$749,000

Spacious 3 BD, 2 BA Montclair Rancher in secluded wooded setting. Upgrades throughout, hardwood floors, serene landscaped yard w/ hill views. 2 BD/ 1 BA oversized in-law with separate entrance.

Nahid Nassiri 510-339-4550

REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$589,000

Mid-century classic with hardwood floors, huge level lot and big rumppus room. Freshly painted.

See virtual tour at PatriciaBennett.com

OAKLAND HILLS \$479,000

Coming Soon! Gorgeous Mediterranean in the Oakland Hills. Complete remodel, hardwood floors, fireplace, deck, huge lot and 2+ bedrooms, move in condition.

7200 Sunkist Drive Ken Nwokedi

SEQUOYAH HILLS \$279,000

Coming Soon! Spacious, remodeled bedroom condo in the Sequoyah Hills. Tiled entry, patio, 1 car garage, clean move-in condition.

8629 Mountain Blvd. Ken Nwokedi

Commercial

OAKLAND \$1,149,000

2865 Broadway Street Huge price reduction! Gorgeous Victorian mixed use building. income units/ offices up to 1000 sq ft. (rental only). Bar/restaurants, retail store downstairs. Excellent "Row" location. Approximately 3000 sq ft.

Ken Nwokedi 510-339-4000

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SPORTS

• Friday, September 3, 2004 •

Section C

PREP FOOTBALL 2004



EL CERRITO'S D'Shawn Goodwin, left, and Chad Jackson go through a drill. Says coach George Austin of his 2004 team: "We'll be OK. We'll play teams pretty tough."

Local football teams lay it on the line

offensive linemen
El Cerrito, Albany,
Albany and St. Mary's
about the 2004

By Phil Jensen
STAFF WRITER

The offensive line of a football team determines its offense, the four area high and are in good shape.

Albany, Berkeley, El Cerrito and St. Mary's all have solid guard blocks in place on the line for the 2004 season.

Albany has highly recruited Erik Howard at right end and two other returning starters (left tackle Charles and offensive guard Ra-

Albany has a returning starter tackle, sophomore Don

Albany is a real mature kid for his age, said. "He's deceptively strong. He's a tough-

Albany Cox, a 2003 first-team All-Contra Costa Ath-

Albany running back, has transferred to McClymonds.

Albany confirmed Connie Sow-

Albany transfer from St.

Albany football tournament Sept. 25 in Hayward.

Albany Training meetings

Albany Training, endurance program which benefits the

Albany Volley Bash

Albany For Youth Foundation, accepting applications for

Albany Volley Bash Tour

Albany Volley Bash Tour

Albany Volley Bash

Mary's, could be the Gauchos' starting tailback this season.

El Cerrito receivers to watch include senior Gary Eng, sophomore Chris Moncrease and junior Kaya Fitzgerald.

Defensively, Howard and Towers play on the line and Cardona and Jonathan Okada are line-backers. Howard was a second-team all-league pick last season.

A cornerback to watch is Desmond Thomas.

"We'll be OK," said Austin about his team. "We'll play teams pretty tough."

Albany also has line strength this year.

"We have the entire line back, from tight end to tackle," Albany coach Dan Shaughnessy said.

Shaughnessy, starting his first year as Albany's head coach and 44th year coaching overall, has his offensive line anchored by returning first-team All-Bay Shore Athletic League selection Patrice

Azi. The two tackles are senior twins Nick and Ben Goldenson.

Drew Southern returns at starting quarterback for the Cougars, and Jermaine Slaughter is an offensive threat at running back. Senior wide receiver

Luuk Sasse also has emerged as an offensive threat.

Defensively, the Cougars are strong at linebacker with Azi and Donnie Phelps. Up front, Albany's line has received a lift from defensive tackle Yifan She.

"We're really positive about stuff this year. The kids feel good," Shaughnessy said.

Berkeley has offensive linemen with starting experience in



LINEMAN ERIK HOWARD, right, of El Cerrito is a two-way standout who is drawing plenty of attention from college recruiters.

seniors Jack Nicolaus and William Mitchell. Tight end Eddie Young also returns. The Yellow Jackets also have a premier

running back in Antoine Cokes, who rushed for 710 yards and seven touchdowns last season.

"We're just hoping to do well (this season)," Berkeley coach Matt Bissell said.

The Yellow Jackets' starting quarterback (Jeff Spellman) and wide receivers (Aaron Miles and Roberto McBean) were seniors last season. Junior Lucas Fogarty and senior Josh Cephas are

vying for the starting quarterback

position. Seniors Joel Thompson and Kellan Patterson both have experience at wide receiver.

Defensively, Berkeley has a strong core returning from last year's squad, which allowed an average of only 190.7 yards per game in nine games.

Julian James, Young, Nicolaus and Mitchell give the Yellow Jackets depth on the defensive

line. Young and James were first-team All-ACCAL picks last season. Alphonso Thomas, Daniel

Aguilar and Cokes return at linebacker. Thomas was a first-team all-league selection last season

and Aguilar was a second-team all-league pick. Patrick Henderson, a first-team all-league selection last year at defensive back, has transferred to McClymonds, confirmed Bissell.

St. Mary's has three starters returning on the offensive line: Sam Valli, Logan Felkins and Mike Vasquez. Felkins and Vasquez will be the tackles and Valli will play left guard. Tight end Jason Holliday is also returning. But the Panthers were

hit hard by the graduation of last season's top running backs and receivers, including co-BSAL

Running Back of the Year Fred Hives. BSAL Lineman of the Year Jon Taranto also graduated.

Quarterbacks Scott Tully and David Pezzola, who both saw significant playing time last season, return. Both quarterbacks probably will get significant playing time in the preseason, said St. Mary's coach Jay Lawson. Pezzola also punts and is a place-

kicker for St. Mary's.

Defensively, the Panthers return first-team All-BSAL linebacker Josh Tatum. Ollie Churchill, who started at outside

linebacker last season, will move to inside linebacker. Valli also plays linebacker, and the secondary is anchored by free safety

Rolando Oliver.

"We're pleased to bring back a lot of leadership and experience at the quarterback position, which is key. We think our defense is going to be pretty good. It's going to be very important for us, as usual, to stay healthy," Lawson said.

Panthers star picks Gonzaga

■ St. Mary's Gurganious makes oral commitment to play basketball for the WCC powerhouse

By Chace Bryson
STAFF WRITER

Larry Gurganious needed just one day to decide that Gonzaga was the place to continue his playing career.

The St. Mary's High senior visited the Spokane, Wash., campus Saturday and made up his mind upon his return home Sunday night. On Monday, he announced that he had given an oral commitment to accept a full scholarship at the West Coast Conference powerhouse.



Larry Gurganious

The early signing period for national letters of intent begins Nov. 10.

"The staff and players treated me as if I was already there," Gurganious said of his visit. "I liked how the campus was. It just seemed like a good fit."

A 6-foot-5 small forward, Gurganious was named to the all-state junior team by calisports.com last season after averaging 19 points and eight rebounds per game. He made the All-Contra Costa Times second team last season and the third team as a sophomore.

"He's a relentless worker," Panthers coach Manny Nodar said. "He's improved every season by putting in practice in the gym and weight room day in and day out."

Gonzaga has a string of seven consecutive 20-win seasons and six straight trips to the NCAA Tournament.

Berkeley girls back in ACCAL

By Jennifer Starks
STAFF WRITER

The Berkeley High School girls basketball team is once again a full-fledged member of the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League.

Yellow Jackets coach Gene Nakamura confirmed Wednesday that his team will not be granted semi-independent status for the 2004-05 season, meaning it will have to play every team in the ACCAL twice.

The decision to change Berkeley's status was reached at the ACCAL's Board of Managers meeting last week. Nakamura said he didn't hear of the decision until this week and now must rework his schedule.

Two years ago, the Yellow Jackets became the first basketball team to take advantage of the North Coast Section's competitive anomaly rule, which enables squads to break away from league play once they've demonstrated sustained dominance over a period of time. The De La Salle football team did so in 1997.

Berkeley since has faced each ACCAL team once per season. It took full advantage of the opportunity and scheduled games against such top-tier teams as St. Mary's Stockton, Pinewood-Los Altos Hills and Piedmont.

"I've always called the other coaches and asked them if they'd play me twice," Nakamura said. "Most of them didn't want to. Until they could beat me, I wanted to stay an anomaly."

The Yellow Jackets, who have made six trips to the California Interscholastic Federation Division I state championship game, remain one of the top teams in the East Bay. Their supremacy within the ACCAL isn't what it used to be, however. When Berkeley faced El Cerrito last season, it prevailed by a mere 11 points.

"I don't feel too badly about it," Nakamura said. "This year, it may make a difference. We have a pretty young team, so it may be more competitive. Pinole Valley is strong, and El Cerrito is getting stronger. The reason I kept it is to give more competition to the junior varsity and freshmen teams."

BRIEFS

Flag football

Bay football tournament Sept. 25 in Hayward.

Bay Training meetings

Bay Training, endurance program which benefits the

Bay Volley Bash

Bay For Youth Foundation, accepting applications for

Bay Volley Bash Tour

Bay Volley Bash

Junior volleyball exchange to Europe

Sports For Youth Foundation, Inc. is accepting applications for boys and girls ages 15-20, who are accomplished high school or club players and good citizens, to take part in 2005 Goodwill Ambassadors World Tours. Tour will travel to London, Paris, Venice and Rome. Registration deadline Dec. 15. 425-255-8102, info@youthsports.com or www.volleyballtours.com.

OGSL softball clinics

Oakland Girls Softball League will be offering free clinics for girls ages 8-14 Oct. 3, Oct. 10, Oct. 17 and Oct. 24 from noon to 2 p.m. at Owen Jones Field (Redwood Rd. and Campus Dr.) in Oakland. Signups for spring 2005 season to be held at each clinic. 510-339-7268 or www.ogsl.org.

Oakland Strokes open house

Oakland Strokes high school crew team will be holding open house Sept. 11 from 9-11 a.m. at Jack London Aquatic Center in

Oakland. www.oaklandstrokes.com.

Coast to Coast seeks baseball players

Coast to Coast Athletics is looking for youth baseball players ages 11-18 to represent USA in international competition in Puerto Rico, the Netherlands and Australia. Try-outs will be held Sept. 11 at 2 p.m. at Solano Community College, Sept. 17 at 5 p.m. at San Francisco State University, and Sept. 18 at 10 a.m. at San Jose Giants Municipal Stadium. Online registration at www.CoastToCoastAthletics.com. 928-854-9455.

Twilight basketball

Berkeley Youth Alternatives will be offering twilight basketball for girls ages 11-18 Wednesdays and Fridays from 6-9 p.m. at 1255 Alston Way. 510-845-9066 or sports@byaonline.org.

BAWBL baseball tourney

First annual Tournament for Bay Area Women's Baseball League will be held Sept. 23-25 at Mission Col-

lege in Santa Clara. Games held Friday and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday championships begin at 10 a.m. Top women's teams from around nation, food and booths.

www.caliwomensbaseball.com.

Hadnot Foundation golf tourney

Sixth annual Jim Hadnot Golf Classic will be held Sept. 17 at Metropolitan Golf Links at 10051 Doolittle Drive in Oakland with 7:30 a.m. shotgun start. Four-person scramble format. \$130/person or \$520/foursome. Proceeds benefit James W. Hadnot, Sr. Foundation. 510-393-2931.

CA Track Club

CA Track Club in Oakland is looking for boys and girls ages 11-16. 510-482-9696.

Bay Area Rescue Mission golf tourney

Bay Area Rescue Mission's New Life Golf Tournament will be held Sept. 27 at Richmond Country

Club. \$500/player or \$2,500/foursome includes lunch, tee favors, awards dinner. Volunteers needed. 510-215-4889 or RMiller@BayAreaRescue.org.

Monarchs boys basketball

Oakland Monarchs Basketball Club is looking for boys for its 1st grade/7-under, 2nd grade/8-under and 3rd grade/9-under teams. Signups and workouts held Wednesdays from 6-7:45 p.m. and Saturdays from 1-2:30 p.m. at Rainbow Recreation Center at 5800 International Blvd. in Oakland. 510-615-5751.

Monarchs girls basketball

Oakland Monarchs Basketball Club is looking for girls for its 10-under team. Practices start Sept. 11 at noon at Rainbow Recreation Center at 5800 International Blvd. in Oakland. 510-615-5751.

Slam N' Jam fall basketball

Slam N' Jam fall league will be

See BRIEFS, Page 2

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Father and son splurge on box set of 'Alien'

IT WAS A big deal when the director's cut of "Alien" showed up at the AMC in Berkeley a while back. There were "Alien" films and my father, who's just rocketed into menage-hood, and I are big fans of the first two, especially the first two, which I trusted over on a Saturday morning to see what Ridley Scott originally had in mind for the first in the series.

In this one, Sigourney Weaver stars as Warrant Officer Ripley, part of the crew of a spaceship towing a barge on a few tons of drag home from a planet to drag home from some alien planet in a galaxy far, far away. Who says all the alienation of someone else's mission has to be done by a woman? Bush? Anyway, the mission goes predictably when the crew is ordered to investigate a mysterious communication signal from an alien planet. We're begging you to ignore the orders, sink into hypersleep, and just come home, but of course they won't. And so on it's the races.

"Alien" always makes me think of food. I'm not sure this is Ridley Scott's intent, but it does expect when he feeds a big spaghetti feed into the beginning of the story? For office-water-cooler-talk



ROBERT MENZINGER
Life is a Movie

power, this scene is second only to the supercharged soccer-mom-on-steroids moment at the end of the next film, "Aliens," when Ripley climbs into the giant self-propelled tweezers and launches her epic final battle with the alien matriarch by calling her a name that starts with "B" and isn't "Buttercup."

But back to the spaghetti dinner scene, where John Hurt tosses his monster cookies. Following the crew's visit to the mystery planet, Hurt's character has unknowingly gestated an organism, and it ain't the Gerber baby. The alien within has decided it's his birthday and takes the nearest available shortcut to the outside world to celebrate, neatly avoiding such pesky exit barriers as Hurt's terror-constricted esophagus, thrashing tongue, and clacking front teeth. Hurt flails onto the table in the middle of the marinara sauce, his stomach starts to stretch and ... well, forget the Lamaze training. It's pretty much like dinner

at our house, except we probably make more noise.

Coming out of the movie, we were so jacked we decided to spring for the boxed set of all four "Alien" movies. It contains nine disks and runs about a hundred bucks, plus a surcharge for the optional sherpa to help you carry it home. Parker and I saved up for months.

Came the day when The Alien Quadrilogy was ours. After our SWAT-team consultant succeeded in getting through the shrink wrap, the package unfolded like the tentacle of a space creature and stretched all the way across our kitchen floor. It occurred to me that this could be the new dimensional measure of bandbox Albany properties. Real estate agents could crow, "Close to Solano Avenue shopping, this unusually spacious lot is nine Quadrilgies wide!"

I'm still wondering about all the dough we spent on this venture. But Parker and I did save up. It's known as getting the movies you want and pretending it's an economics lesson for your kids. And it's also, of course, one of the primary reasons to have children in the first place.

Reach Albany writer Robert Menzinger at lifeisamovie@pacbell.net.

NOW PLAYING

Below are capsule reviews of movies playing at area theaters. Reviewers are Karen Hershenson and Mary F. Pols, Times; Robert W. Butler, Chris Hewitt, Christopher Kelly, Steven Rea and Carrie Rickey, Knight Ridder Newspapers; Brad Kava, Glenn Lovell and Bruce Newman, San Jose Mercury News; David Germain, Christy Lemire and Ben Nuckols, Associated Press; Dave Kehr, Elvis Mitchell and A.O. Scott, New York Times; Jami Bernard and Jack Mathews, New York Daily News; Robert Denerstein, Rocky Mountain News; Phoebe Flowers, South Florida Sun-Sentinel; Evan Henerson, Valerie Kukulski, Bob Strauss and Glenn Whiplash, Los Angeles Daily News; Carina Chocano, Kevin Crust, Manohla Dargis, Kevin Thomas and Kenneth Turan, Los Angeles Times; Ed Bar, Nancy Churnin, Gary Dowell, Tom Mauststad, Chris Vognar and Philip Wurtzel, Dallas Morning News; Jay Boyar and Roger Moore, Orlando Sentinel; Joe Battaie, Sacramento Bee; Ty Burr, Catherine Foster and Wesley Morris, Boston Globe; Ann Hornaday, Stephen Hunter, Michael O'Sullivan and Desson Thomson, Washington Post.

"ALIEN VS. PREDATOR" (A): A heartless, sometimes (unintentionally) hilarious finale — we hope — to the "Alien" and "Predator" franchises. Lance Henriksen is a billionaire who finances a research trip to a pyramid buried in the Antarctic ice. Surprise! It's a gamescape, and humans are it. Would have been a better video game. Cool ending, though. — R. Moore. (PG-13: violence, language, horror images, slime, gore.) 1 hour, 35 minutes. C

"ANACONDA: THE HUNT FOR THE BLOOD ORCHID" (PG-13): This hokey, old-school creature feature sequel will appeal to fans of the original (and there are a few) and connoisseurs of enjoyably absurd movies. A group of scientists working for a pharmaceuticals corporation ventures into the jungles of Borneo in search of the rare blood orchid. Soon they've drawn the attention of some very large, very hungry giant anacondas. — G. Dowell. (PG-13: violence, language.) 1 hour, 33 minutes. C-

"BEFORE SUNSET" (A): A sequel to "Before Sunrise." Former lovers Jesse (Ethan Hawke) and Celine (Julie Delpy) meet again after nine years apart and spend 80 minutes (the film is in real time) roaming the streets of Paris together. Richard Linklater's leanest, sparsest film yet is also his best, most mature work. It challenges all the conventions of romantic movies, cutting out grand misadventures, nudity and sex. Instead this potent, very love story delves into the real and true emotions involved in experiencing desire as we age and gain responsibilities. Even the smart, sweet "Before Sunrise" seems slightly staid in comparison. — M. Pols. (R: language and sexual references.) 1 hour, 20 minutes. A

"BENJI: OFF THE LEASH!" (PG): That lovely, smart dog is back, but in a darker story. A teen's parents run a puppy mill in their yard. The father is abusive; at times the mother has visible bruises. When a prized breeder becomes pregnant, the boy rescues a pup, whose fate eventually intersects with Benji's. — C. Foster. (PG: thematic material.) 1 hour, 46 minutes. C

"THE BLIND SWORDSMAN: ZATO-ICHI" (PG-13): Filmmaker Takeshi Kitano blends the line between inaction and genius in this sublimely syncopated reimagining of the popular samurai movie series from the 1960s, '70s and '80s. Zato-ichi (played by Takeshi) is still swiftly and precisely deadly with a cane-sheathed sword. The story follows the traditional-though lines of our hero entering a town caught up in a gang war, but that's as standard as it gets. It's a mad masterpiece. — B. Strauss. (R: violence, language; in Japanese with English subtitles.) 1 hour, 55 minutes. A

"THE BOURNE SUPREMACY" (PG-13): Two years after we first met him, Matt Damon's Jason Bourne is as lithe, strong and sharp-witted as a disaffected spy as ever. The franchise continues, with a strong tale of heartbreak and revenge, set among various exotic locales. Joan Allen joins the cast as a CIA operative who thinks Bourne has gone bad. Director Paul Greengrass

OPENING TODAY

"THE BROWN BUNNY" (NR)
Vincent Gallo's controversial, dreamy road-trip film features an extended sexual encounter between the director/writer/actor and Chloe Sevigny.

"THE COOKOUT" (PG-13)
A newly wealthy pro basketball player tries to throw his annual cookout in his new, uptight 'hood With Queen Latifah, Eve and Danny Glover.

"DANNIE DARKO: THE DIRECTOR'S CUT" (R)
The release of the cult favorite, starring a pre-fame Jake Gyllenhaal as a troubled teen who converses with a demonic 6-foot-tall rabbit.

"PAPARAZZI" (PG-13)
For a rising action superstar (Cole Hauser), a quartet of paparazzi is first an annoyance, then a threat.

"ROSENSTRASSE" (PG-13)
Based on the true story of hundreds of Aryan women who married Jewish men during the Holocaust in order to save their lives.

"TAEGUKGI: THE BROTHERHOOD OF WAR" (R)
Two brothers are unwillingly drafted into the South Korean Army during the Korean War in 1950.

"WICKER PARK" (PG-13)
This intense psychological drama stars Josh Hartnett as a man searching obsessively for a woman he fell in love with, who then disappeared.

"YES NURSE! NO NURSE!" (NR)
Based on a beloved Dutch '60s television show about the eccentric residents of Nurse Klivia's rest home. (In Dutch with subtitles.)

takes over from Doug Liman, and he does a good job, although the material is less fresh and he's a little too in love with chaotic car chases. — M. Pols. (PG-13: intense action violence.) 1 hour, 48 minutes. B

"THE CLEARING" (A): A somber, taut and elegantly made thriller worth seeing for the unusually emotionally intimate performance from Robert Redford, who stars as a top executive kidnapped by a former employee (Willem Dafoe). The story is told in two parts, one following Redford's and Dafoe's characters on the day of the kidnapping and the other following Helen Mirren, playing Redford's wife, as she tries to get her husband back. A bit too civilized, but first-time director Pieter Jan Brugge does a fine job building the tension. — M. Pols. (R: brief strong language.) 1 hour, 31 minutes. B

"COLLATERAL" (A): This Michael Mann thriller about one night in the life of a hit man (Tom Cruise) and the cabbie (Jamie Foxx) unlucky enough to pick him up is slick, highly atmospheric and very cool, but requires a big leap of faith from the viewer. It's riddled with coincidences, implausibilities and physical impossibilities centering around the continued good health of Mr. Cruise in the face of many flying weapons and bullets. If you can get over that, you'll have a great time. Jada Pinkett Smith as a prosecutor with a link to both men adds a lovely note of calm. — M. Pols. (R: intense violence, language.) 2 hours. C+

"DE-LOVELY" (A): A bio-pic about Cole Porter, starring Kevin Kline as the great songwriter and Ashley Judd as his wife, Linda, who tolerated a lifetime of his running around with men. An odd movie; crammed with very hip, very cool musical numbers and lively to leave you humming Porter — always a pleasure — but hampered by a self-defeating dramatic structure that turns the whole thing into a sort of "This Is Your Life" episode. Kline is good, but Judd gives a chilly, studied performance that ranks as one of her worst. — M. Pols. (PG-13: sexual content.) 2 hours, 5 minutes. B

"END OF THE CENTURY: THE STORY OF THE RAMONES" (A): To lead the rock 'n' roll may be to drink deeply from the fountain of youth, but the rigors and temptations of that life often point to an early death. Take the Ramones, the seminal punk rock band whose history is traced in exhaustive detail in Michael Gramaglia and Jim Fields' absorbing documentary. The film reveals starkly that harmony among band members becomes harder to sustain as the years gather, youthful enthusiasm wanes and personalities define themselves. — S. Holden. (Not rated: stylized martial arts violence, a scene of sensuality.) 1 hour, 48 minutes. B+

"EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING" (R): This prequel to "The Exorcist" is awash in repugnant imagery. Father Merrin (Stellan Skarsgard) has given up the priesthood in the late 1940s, his faith shattered by horrors he witnessed under the Nazis. A British collector seeking a priceless artifact entices Merrin to join a dig in Kenya, where a pristine Roman Catholic church has been discovered, buried in the fifth century at a time when no Christian inroads had been made that far into Africa. — D. Germain. (R: strong vio-

lence and gore, disturbing images and rituals, language.) 1 hour, 53 minutes. D

"FAHRENHEIT 9/11" (R): He's baaaaack. With a vengeance, a camera and archival footage no conservative wants to see. In Michael Moore's exhaustive, and rather exhausting, nonfiction film, the must-see "documentary" of the season, America's resident noddie details the many reasons why he hates President George Bush and why he thinks you should, too. The results are passionate, clever, scathing, funny, snarky, brutal, sad, glib, often wildly entertaining and at times superficial. Moore is at his strongest when he lets a woman named Lisa Lipscomb, whose son was stationed in Iraq, do the talking. She will break your heart. — M. Pols. (R: language, violent images of war.) 1 hour, 56 minutes. B+

"FESTIVAL EXPRESS" (A): They say that if you can remember Woodstock and other rock concerts of the 1960s then you couldn't have been there. That also may be true of Canada's 1970 Festival Express tour, headlined by Janis Joplin, the Grateful Dead and The Band. As documented in the new film "Festival Express," it sheds new light on psychedelic rock while showing viewers heretofore unseen, career-defining performances by some legends. — B. Kava. (R: some language.) 1 hour, 30 minutes. B

"GARDEN STATE" (A): "Scrubs" star Zach Braffert wrote, directed and stars in this deceptively quirky tale that gradually deepens to end on a note of redemption marked by a bracing largeness of spirit. Braffert plays a Los Angeles actor who returns to New Jersey when his mother dies, and simultaneously stops taking medication for depression. With Natalie Portman as the offbeat local girl with whom he hooks up. — K. Thomas. (R: drugs, language.) 1 hour, 42 minutes. B+

"HARRY POTTER AND THE PRISONER OF AZKABAN" (PG): For the third in the Harry Potter movies, directing duties have been handed from the date and stand Chris Columbus to the more sophisticated Alfonso Cuarón, whose last film was the steamy art-house smash "Y Tu Mama Tambien." This film, which features a supposedly dangerous criminal (Gary Oldman) pursuing Harry, is darker, far more atmospheric and contemporary Cuarón and screenwriter Steve Kloves have cast aside some of J.K. Rowling's plot elements without doing too much damage. But increasingly, there's a sense of obligation to these films, and with the excellent young cast growing at a pace that far exceeds J.K. Rowling's writing speed, time is against the franchise. — M. Pols. (PG: frightening moments, creature violence and mild language.) 2 hours, 30 minutes. B

"HERO" (R): This historical fable and soulful contemplation is like an epic poem, taking viewers back a couple of millennia to China's "Warring States" period. The story quickly zeroes in on a mysterious swordsman (Jet Li) known only as "Nameless" who is brought before the king of Qin as the hero who killed the three most feared assassins in the realm. Visually stunning. — T. Mauststad. (PG-13:)

See REVIEWS, Page C4

FRIDAY MOVIE LISTINGS

Movie listings for Friday Sept. 3

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Mean Creek (R) 12:40, 3:10, 5:15, 7:15, 9:30.

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Rosenstrasse (PG-13) 1:10, 5:15, 8:15

Rosenstrasse (PG-13) 1:10, 5:15, 8:15
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Rosenstrasse (PG-13) 1:10, 5:15, 8:15

The Story of the Winking Camel (PG) 12:30, 2:45

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The Story of the Winking Camel (PG) 12:30, 2:45

SuperBabes: Baby Geniuses 2 (PG) 12:15, 2:30, 4:30, 7:15

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SuperBabes: Baby Geniuses 2 (PG) 12:15, 2:30, 4:30, 7:15

Tae Guk Gi: The Brotherhood of War (R) 2:05, 5:20, 8:30

Tae Guk Gi: The Brotherhood of War (R) 2:05, 5:20, 8:30
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Reviews

FROM PAGE C3

stylized martial arts violence, a scene of sensuality.) 1 hour, 36 minutes. **A**

"A HOME AT THE END OF THE WORLD": Based on an early book by Michael Cunningham, the film does an adequate enough job of showcasing the absolute adorableness of Colin Farrell. But it is Sissy Spacek, in a handful of scenes, who really earns what limited attention this film deserves. Bobby Morrow (Farrell) suffers the loss of everyone he loves — older brother, both parents — at a tender age, and spends the rest of the movie open-heartedly seeking replacements. — B. Strauss. (R: sex, nudity, language, violence, drug use.) 1 hour, 35 minutes. **C**

"INTIMATE STRANGERS": Anna is an unhappy Parisian housewife who, on the way to visit a psychiatrist, turns the wrong way and ends up spilling her guts to a financial adviser instead. William gets too excited to point out her mistake. Even when the truth comes out, she returns for more, with increasingly revealing and explicit conversation. For all of its intimations of deep psychological turmoil, this is a romantic film. — B. Strauss. (R: sex language; in French with subtitles.) 1 hour, 45 minutes. **B**

"I, ROBOT": Will Smith in the altogether is the most exciting thing about this self-important, derivative and muddled sci-fi thriller, awash in product placements, from Audi to leather Converse All Stars tennis shoes. He plays a Chicago homicide detective, circa 2035, who gets a queasy feeling about the robots so pervasive in modern life. — M. Pols. (PG-13: intense, stylized action, some brief nudity.) 1 hour, 54 minutes. **C**

"THE MANCHURIAN CANDIDATE": John Frankenheimer's original still sparkles, but director Jonathan Demme has done a surprisingly good job remaking it. The story is updated to contemporary times, with the Gulf War, and corporate moguls making villains almost as insidious and creepy as the Communists in the 1962 film. The three leads — Denzel Washington, Meryl Streep and Liev Schreiber — deliver excellent performances. The movie is weakest when it dips into standard thriller formula, and it lacks the surreal visual punch of the original. — M. Pols. (R: violence, some language.) 2 hours, 6 minutes. **B+**

"MARIA FULL OF GRACE": A compelling, lyrical and highly accomplished debut feature by writer/director Joshua Marston, which puts a human face on one of the more inhu-

mane and despicable aspects of the drug trade, the use of "mules" to transport heroin and cocaine. Through Maria, his heroine, we come to understand how an otherwise innocent young girl would willingly take such a risk. In the title role, serene newcomer Catalina Sandino Moreno wins our sympathy. — M. Pols. (R: drug content, language.) 1 hour, 41 minutes. **A-**

"MEAN CREEK": This quietly devastating drama starts with a schoolyard scuffle and a brief but effective pummeling delivered by resident bully George to fellow middle-schooler Sam (Rory Culkin), and the boy's older brother vows to get even. What makes "Mean Creek" such an involving film is the way writer/director Jacob Estes examines the multiple layers of bullying going on from within a peer group. — M. Pols. (R: language, sexual references, teen drug and alcohol use.) 1 hour, 28 minutes. **B+**

"NAPOLEON DYNAMITE": Napoleon, played by Jon Heder, is a gangly mouth-breather whose affectless eccentricity could easily be mistaken for simple-mindedness. "He's a tender little guy," as described by his Uncle Rico (Jon Gries). This is about the kindest thing anyone says about Napoleon, who is taunted, harassed and laughed at in school. It is also the truest, though it may take you a while to appreciate it. This movie, filled with small-town, quirky characters, is ultimately more tender than cruel. — A.O. Scott. (PG: thematic elements and language.) 1 hour, 26 minutes. **C+**

"THE NOTEBOOK": Wealthy big-city girl Allie (Rachel McAdams) meets local working-class boy Noah (Ryan Gosling) while vacationing with her family and they fall in wild teenage love. Her parents don't approve, and they go their separate ways — she to college, he to World War II. But since their story is being told in flashbacks in the form of a notebook — which a kind older gentleman (James Garner) is reading in a nursing home to a kind older lady with Alzheimer's disease (Gena Rowlands) — you begin to suspect that these star-crossed lovers ended up crossing paths again. — C. Lemire. (PG-13: some sexuality.) 2 hours. **C-**

"OPEN WATER": A young couple are beginning to drift apart; you can see it on the first night of Daniel and Susan's vacation. On the second night, drifting apart becomes less a relationship issue than a navigational nightmare. The pair end up in a watery predicament — all alone, miles from shore, bobbing like corks in shark-infested waters — after their dive-boat mistakenly leaves without them. — B. Newman. (R: nudity, profanity.) 1 hour, 19 minutes. **B+**

"OUTFOXED: RUPERT MURDOCH'S WAR ON JOURNALISM": Left-wing filmmaker Robert Greenwald's attempt to call foul on megamedia owner Rupert Murdoch's exclamation-point news network. The film clearly wants to show viewers the Fox network's conservative agenda, but more than that, to challenge its claim of "fair and balanced." Among those interviewed are Walter Cronkite, comedian Al Franken and cultural critic James Wolcott. — D. Thomson. (Not rated.) 1 hour, 17 minutes. **B**

"RIDING GIANTS": An homage to big-wave surfing by Stacy Peralta, who explored skateboarding in his previous documentary "Dogtown and Z-Boys." Here he visits the pioneers of the sport, the Mavericks on the Central California coast, and finally Hawaii, where Laird Hamilton et al. tackled the most giant waves of all. A bit gushy, but thrilling. — M. Pols. (PG-13: language.) 1 hour, 42 minutes. **B**

"SPIDER-MAN 2": A rare sequel, just as nifty as its predecessor and blessed with some indescribably exhilarating moments. But along with the thrilling action, director Sam Raimi takes his Spidey (Tobey Maguire) to emotional depths. It's more romantic than the original, too (with Kirstin Dunst as the sexy-sweet love interest), plus it's got a sense of humor. — M. Pols. (PG-13: stylized action, violence.) 2 hours, 5 minutes. **A-**

"SUPER SIZE ME": This anti-junk-food documentary manages to entertain even as it informs and alarms. Filmmaker Morgan Spurlock — in excellent physical shape at the beginning of his film — sets out to investigate the health effects of an all-

McDonald's diet. In just one month, he gains 25 pounds while his health plummets. Scary, yes, but Spurlock's light touch as a filmmaker, his eye and ear for irony, and his easy good humor leaven the disturbing statistics. — M. O'Sullivan. (Not rated.) 1 hour, 38 minutes. **B-**

"SUSPECT ZERO": This flat, illogical, tedious exercise in sicko-serial killer fiction is billed as a psychological thriller. But even Ben Kingsley as bad-guy vigilante killer Benjamin O'Ryan can't save this mess. In the first five minutes, we see him brutally dispense with a traveling salesman who apparently has a history of abducting and molesting children. Trying to put together the crime puzzle is FBI agent Tom Mackelway (Aaron Eckhart), who has some sort of psychic connection to O'Ryan involving grainy black-and-white visions. — M. Pols. (R: violent content, language, some nudity.) 1 hour, 37 minutes. **D**

"UNCOVERED: THE WAR ON IRAQ": Robert Greenwald's documentary offers smart, engaging discourse about the war in Iraq, and also the tactics and style of the Bush administration and the Bush doctrine, which accepts the idea of pre-emptive war. Greenwald marshals dozens of impeccably credentialed witnesses to debunk the case made for going to war, laying out with more light than heat one side of a debate. — A. Hornaday. (Not rated.) 1 hour, 23 minutes. **B+**

"THE VILLAGE": Another twisted mystery from director M. Night Shyamalan. Residents of a remote 19th century village are terrorized by creatures that live in the surrounding woods. A young blind woman (Bryce Dallas Howard, director Ron's daugh-

ter) wants to brave the woods and get medicine from the nearby towns to save the life of her beloved (Joaquin Phoenix). The twist is easy to predict and the frights are at a minimum, but it's all skillfully rendered and Howard is a true find. With William Hurt, Sigourney Weaver and Adrien Brody as a very fine village idiot. — M. Pols. (PG-13: scene of violence, frightening situations.) 2 hours. **B-**

"WE DON'T LIVE HERE ANYMORE": Adapted from two novellas by Andre Dubus, this drama about marital woes is a uncomfortable four-way game of envy, longing and dissatisfaction. Jack Linden (Mark Ruffalo) is sleeping with Edith (Naomi Watts), who is married to Hank (Peter Krause), a writer who is Jack's colleague and best friend. Edith initiated the affair as revenge for Hank's earlier infidelities; and as a way of assuaging his own guilt, Jack nudges his wife, Terry (Laura Dern), into a dalliance with Hank. — A.O. Scott. (R: sex, strong language.) 1 hour, 43 minutes. **B-**

"WHAT THE \$#! DO WE KNOW?": Marlee Matlin stars in this lively exploration of quantum physics that

mixes talking-head interviews with giddy animation and about a photomontage of Mattin) dealing with R. Dennersten (10 minutes. **B**

"WITHOUT A PADLOCK": Oregon for the friends) Jerry Mathers (Seth Green) and ard, but Dennersten (10 minutes. **B**

car say "I'm a survivor" meets "I'm a survivor" they're plunging down the cliff of comedy in which the audience can make the audience year, (PG-13: drug use, material, language, some violence.) 1 hour, 11 minutes. **C-**

"YU-GI-OH!": A 90-minute for the latest episode the market, following little Julie and Johnny after is dark, you won't be them getting dunked. — R. Moore. (PG: some monster images.) 1 hour, 10 minutes. **D-**

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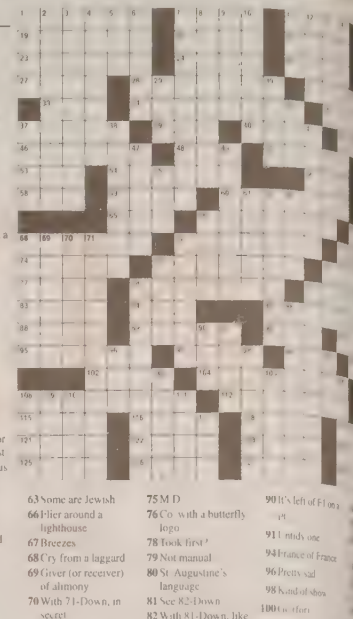
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43 With 15-Down,
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STAGE

ALTARENA PLAYHOUSE — "Tin-types" by Mary Kite, Mel Marvin and Gary Pearle. Sept. 10 through Oct. 9. A fast-paced musical set in turn-of-the-20th-century America against the background of a presidential race about an immigrant and the personalities of the times he encounters.

\$15 general; \$12 seniors and students. Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sept. 26 and Oct. 3, 2 p.m. 1409 High St., Alameda. 510-523-1553 or www.alatarena.org/

THE ASHBY STAGE — "The Faith Project," through Sept. 15. A multi-disciplinary theater piece exploring the place of religion and faith in America. Presented by Shotgun Players. Free to \$20 donation. Tuesday and Wednesday, 8 p.m. 1901 Ashby Ave., Berkeley. 510-841-6500 or www.shotgunplayers.org

AURORA THEATRE — "The Persians," Sept. 9 through Oct. 10. An adaptation by Ellen McLaughlin of the Greek playwright Aeschylus' first-hand account of the heroism and tragedy of the Persian Wars. \$36 to \$45. Wednesday through Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. 2081 Addison St., Berkeley. 510-843-4822 or www.auroratheatre.org

BERKELEY REPERTORY THEATRE'S ROTA THEATRE — "The Secret in the Wings," Sept. 8 through Oct. 17. An adaptation by Mary Zimmerman of European fairy tales, weaving elements from Beauty and the Beast with four lesser-known stories into a dramatic exploration of the darker side of human impulses.

\$10 to \$55. Tuesday and Friday, 8 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.; Sept. 8, Sept. 9, Sept. 18, Sept. 23, Oct. 2 and Oct. 7, 8 p.m.; Sept. 11, Sept. 16, Sept. 25, Sept. 30, Oct. 9, Oct. 14 and Oct. 16, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; NO PERFORMANCE OCT. 15. 2015 Addison St., Berkeley. 510-647-2949. (888) 48RTIX or www.berkeleyrep.org

CALIFORNIA SHAKESPEARE THEATRE — "The Importance of Being Earnest" by Oscar Wilde, closing Sept. 5. A sequestly funny romantic comedy. \$27 to \$52 general; \$25 to \$52 seniors; \$13 to \$52 youths ages 4 to 16; \$10 "young and cheap" tickets for ages 30 and younger for Tuesday through Friday performances, day of performance only. Tuesday through Thursday, 7:30 p.m.; Friday, 8 p.m.; Saturday, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Sunday 4 p.m. Bruns Memorial Amphitheater, 100 Gateway Blvd. (state Highway 24, Shakespeare Festival Way/Gateway Exit), Orinda. Free shuttle from the Orinda Park Station. 510-548-9666 or www.calshakes.org/

LA VAL'S SUBTERRANEAN THEATRE — "Fluffy Bunnies in a Field of Daisies" by Matt Chaffee, through Oct. 2. A frankly sexual and comedic look at misconceptions and game-playing between men and women.

\$15 general; \$10 students and seniors. Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m. 1834 Euclid Ave., Berkeley. 510-464-4468 or www.impacttheatre.com

WOODMINSTER AMPHITHEATRE — "Flower Drum Song," Sept. 3 through Sept. 12. The Bay Area premiere of a

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\$19 to \$31 general; \$17 to \$29 seniors and children ages 16 and under. Thursday through Sunday, 8 p.m. Joaquin Miller Park, 3300 Joaquin Miller Road, Oakland. 510-531-9597 or www.woodminster.com

POPULAR MUSIC

ALBATROSS PUB — Kugelplex, Sept. 4. \$3. Whiskey Brothers, first, third and fifth Wednesdays. Free. Shows begin Wednesdays, 9 p.m.; Saturdays, 9:30 p.m. 1822 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-843-2473 or www.albatrosspub.com

ASHKENAZ — Tropical Vibrations, Sept. 3, 9:30 p.m. \$13. Native Elements, Sept. 4, 9:30 p.m. \$13. Wawa Sylvestre and the Oneness Kingdom, Sept. 5, 8 p.m. \$13.

"Mostly Greek: Old Rebelika Music" with Edessa and Smyrna Time Machine, Sept. 7, 8:30 p.m. \$9.

"1930s Dance Party" with Baguette Quartette, Sept. 8, 9 p.m. \$9. Caribbean Allstars, Sept. 10, 9:30 p.m. \$13.

Zydeco Flames, Sept. 11, 9 p.m. \$13. Cafe Belle, Sept. 12, 7:30 p.m. \$13. 1317 San Pablo Avenue, Berkeley. 510-525-5054 or www.ashkenaz.com

BECKETT'S IRISH PUB — "Beckett's Battle of the Bands" with The Fated, The Skindivers, Thriving Ivory, Wally, Nicole, Sept. 4.

Free. Ages 21 and older. Music at 9:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. 2271 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-647-1790 or www.beckettsirishpub.com

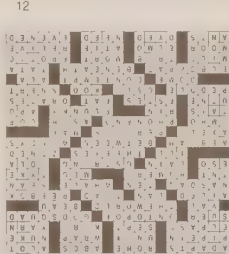
BLAKE'S ON TELEGRAPH — "Monday Night All Star Jam" with The Steve Gannon Band and Mz. Dee, Mondays. \$4.

"Acoustic Wednesday" with Mikie Lee Prasad and guests, 10 p.m. Free. For ages 18 and older. Music begins at 9:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. 2367 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-848-0886 or www.blakesontelegraph.com

COFFEE FOR THOUGHT — Ariel, first Friday of the month. Skalaag, third Friday of the month. Free. Shows begin at 8 p.m. unless noted otherwise. 1544 Webster St., Alameda. 510-769-4930 or www.coffeeforthought.net

DOWNTOWN RESTAURANT — Brian Melvin Trio, Sept. 3.

Sylvia and the Silvertones, Sept. 4. Peter Barshay Duo, Sept. 7. Mimi Fox Quartet, Sept. 10. Frank Jackson Trio, Sept. 11. Kenny Werner with Peter Barshay, Sept. 12.



Jules Broussard, Ned Boynton and Bing Nathan, Wednesdays through September.

Gini Wilson Solo Piano, Thursdays through September.

Free. Music begins Tuesday and Wednesday, 8 p.m.; Thursday through Saturday, 9 p.m. unless noted otherwise. 2102 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-649-3810 or 510-597-0633

FREIGHT AND SALVAGE — Hot Buttered Rum String Band, Sept. 9 and Sept. 10. \$15 to \$16.50. Leftover Dreams with Tony Marcus and Patrice Haan, Sept. 11. \$15 to \$16.50.

John Stewart, Sept. 12. \$17.50 to

\$18.50.

Music starts at 8 p.m. unless otherwise noted. 1111 Addison St., Berkeley. 510-548-1761, (866) 468-3399 or www.freightandsalvage.org

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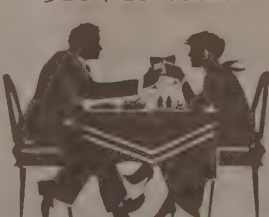
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STAFF WRITER

PAGE C10

connoisseurs of camp.

A: One thing is just a greater

like that."

shows that are mostly done by community theaters, but we do them and we do them a cut above most community theaters. ... A lot of that goes to the directors.

FROM PAGE C10

"In the largely Pakistani-American audience at the premiere of the play, people were roaring and falling off their chairs," says Blank. "It's the kind of audience most original playwrights would kill to be able to contact," Blank says, laughing.

DEAN COPPOLA/STAFF

Q: How did you first get involved with acting?

A: When you're 3 years old or whatever, you're supposed to de-

velop the concept that you're supposed to be something when you grow up. All I can ever remember thinking would be cool would be an actor. It wasn't "I want to be the director of youth programs at a theater," of course, it was just "I want to be an actor," but the practicality of it was that I wanted to work in theater. So I've never had a fallback plan. I went to school, got my bachelor's degree and master's degree in acting, then came back to the Bay Area because that's where I wanted to be, and started to try and figure it out.

Reach Casey Mills at cmills@cctimes.com or 925-943-8241.

Although Ali has never been a direct victim of religious hatred, he says that prejudice is everywhere. "As a Muslim-American, you're pretty much hated by everyone, just no one wants to say it," says Ali.

The strength of *Domestic Crusaders* is in Ali's realistic, humorous depiction of a family with competing desires. Ali pokes fun at all sides of the political and family drama. "He's very fair," says Carla Blank, "*Wajahat* hits

everybody." Everyone is fair game, and all three generations of the Pakistani-American family are depicted, warts and all. "My main point was to make sure the characters were real," Ali says.

The young playwright hopes that his play brings out the larger interpersonal themes in addition to the poignant and sometimes hilarious political jabs.

"It's not a rant," says Ali. "Domestic Crusaders is a play written to show human beings being human beings, with all their foibles." Ali hopes that his work will touch everyone. "It doesn't matter if you're black or white, male or female," he says of the audience, "I want them to come away knowing these living and breathing, passionate and flawed human beings who are just like themselves."

Suzanne LaFetra is a Berkeley writer. Contact her at suzlafetra@yahoo.com

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Arts & Leisure

Friday, September 3, 2004



BILL MANN
Multimedia Notes

North of the border, up Canada way

VICTORIA, B.C. — It's always interesting to see which stories are getting bigger play up here in Canada — stories of joint interest to both countries.

This first story, I'm guessing, was probably put a footnote in most dailies: The "Rx Express" is a trainload of disgruntled American seniors heading up here from L.A. to protest the high cost of prescription drugs in the States.

"The Rx Express" has been on the national Canadian Broadcasting Corp. (CBC) news, both on radio and television, every day since I've arrived.

It's a big story here — far bigger than it is in the United States.

"We're tired of hearing lies about the Canadian health-care system being told to Americans," one angry Canadian told CBC Radio, referring to the single-payer plan that should have been adopted in the U.S. about 30 years ago. She added: "And we're especially tired of hearing the absurd notion that somehow our drugs up here are tainted."

The trainbound Americans, according to the CBC, can be arrested for bringing any prescription drugs back into the United States — unless they're strictly for emergency purposes.

BY THE WAY: On our last trip up to B.C., in May, we were stopped at the U.S. border crossing in Idaho, just south of Creston, B.C. It was the first time we'd ever had our car searched.

So why would a conventional-looking middle-aged couple have their car searched? Terrorist connections, perhaps? Here's what we were asked: "Are you bringing any prescription drugs with you?"

Cheap prescription drugs, it appears, are a higher priority at the border right now than explosives.

STORY NUMBER TWO: I'm in Canada now, but I'd bet the rent this one hardly gets a mention in the U.S. press: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency issued a routine permit in October of last year allowing a private salvage company to sink a 140-foot wooden boat in the Pacific Ocean off B.C. last month. But a screw-up on the permit led the company to dump the boat in Canadian waters. Oops! The Victoria M is now sitting under 1,500 feet of water, loaded with 200 tons of concrete. The problem is that it's resting right in the middle of prime fishing waters for Canadian trawlers. And it may have to be raised, concrete and all, at an estimated cost of \$2 million. Canadian and U.S. officials are supposedly trying to figure out who is at fault and how to raise the boat.

"We've raised the issue repeatedly with the E.P.A.," a Canadian fisheries official said on CBC Radio. But so far, zip. The Canadians' phone calls aren't even being returned. "We're getting a little concerned," said the polite functionary, employing classic Canuck understatement.

Your government in action — and still making friends internationally. I suspect you'd treat your own East Bay next-door neighbor with a bit more respect, wouldn't you?

LOCAL NOTES: The Victoria Times-Colonist reports that the city's police chief recently suffered a broken collarbone while on bike patrol. The chief was riding in the city's fancy Oak Bay district when he was forced off the road by a motorist who didn't stop after the chief flew over the handlebars.

But ... just in case you think this elegant provincial capital is a hotbed of lawlessness, consider this: There have been a grand total of two murders in Victoria this year — this in a city of 500,000.

Reach Bill Mann at News-mann@sonic.net



"DONNIE DARKO," with lead actor Jake Gyllenhaal pictured, is a prime example of a cult movie. Dismissed when it was first released, it went on to build a devoted following.

CULT-IVATING A HIT

■ Critics may scoff, the mainstream may shrug, but some films hang in there long enough to claw out their own niche

By Mary F. Pols
STAFF WRITER

JANUARY 2001 should have been the happiest month of Richard Kelly's life. He'd ridden the Hollywood roller coaster to what seemed like a prime vantage point. His very first movie, "Donnie Darko," had gotten made, featuring a strong cast of promising unknowns and well-regarded veterans, including Drew Barrymore in a smallish part.

The actress was so in love with his writing that she not only co-produced the project, but allowed the rookie to direct. Kelly even scored a coveted spot in the Sundance lineup to premiere his science-fiction fable about an oddball teenager.

And then began his descent — a plummet so steep, it should have been permanent. The premiere was a disaster. Instead of singing his praises, the Hollywood cognoscenti were practically vaulting over Park City snowbanks to get away from him and his movie. The theatrical premiere that October was even more disappointing, with the film taking in a measly \$515,000 at the box office, limping out of theaters within a week.

By all rights, the only thing that could have revived Kelly's career would be a new movie, a movie so good, so well-received, so shockingly different from "Donnie Darko" that it would make everyone forget he'd ever been associated with such a bomb.

Instead, the film that is making Richard Kelly the kind of guy



"OFFICE SPACE," co-starring Gary Cole and Ron Livingston is one of the many examples of a movie rising to cult status after being trashed at the box office.

who is really hard to get on the phone these days is the very same one that almost ruined him. "Donnie Darko" has risen from the dead. It is being rereleased in the Bay Area on Friday in a director's cut, which means not only is the original distributor willing to send it out into the cruel world again, but they've allowed Kelly to make it longer and weirder.

That's because "Donnie Darko" has become, after its extremely inauspicious beginnings, that most curious, undefinable type of movie: the Cult Film.

If Tyler Durden, Brad Pitt's character in "Fight Club" (another movie with cult appeal) were explaining the concept of a cult film, here's what he might say: The first rule is that there are no rules. And that's about the only rule.

The process by which a film becomes a cult hit is as random and inexplicable as the path of a tornado. Sometimes it's based on

a sense of humor, sometimes a sense of absurdity. Cult films can be great, or they can be wonderfully bad, such as the unintentionally awful "Showgirls."

Cult cannot be nailed down. Cult cannot be manufactured. Ask 20 people their idea of a cult film, and you will get some crossover — everyone will mention "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" and David Lynch's "Eraserhead" — but you'll also get suggestions of movies you thought had vanished for good.

But if you want to understand cult films, the death and rebirth of "Donnie Darko" provides one of the most vivid illustrations of the bizarre cult phenomenon in recent history.

Briefly, let's go back to Sundance, to the rejection that is so often part of a cult movie's history.

Mark Valen, who books mid-night films for Landmark Theatres, was at that first "Donnie Darko"

screening. It was in the biggest theater in Park City, Utah, which was packed with studio executives.

"It had one of the most impressive casts," Valen remembered. "And there was this buzz about it. But it's not an easy film to absorb on the first viewing, especially in that environment, where everybody is going 'This is going to be the next blah, blah, blah.'"

The problem with "Donnie Darko" is that it's not the next blah, blah, blah anything. The title character, Donnie, played by a not-yet-famous Jake Gyllenhaal, is a high school student with serious mental problems. He burned down a house, he's medicated, he spends a lot of time in therapy. More problematically, as the film begins, he has started seeing and conversing with a man-sized demonic rabbit named Frank. Moreover, the rabbit would like Donnie to investigate the possibility of time travel.

You'd expect a character like this to be an outcast among his peers, but that's not the case. Donnie's got his own sense of cool, and he's not embarrassed or ashamed by his condition. On hearing that the new girl in school (Jena Malone) has a stepfather who suffers from "emotional problems," he says, enthusiastically, "Me too! What kind does he have?"

"Donnie Darko" is partly about being different, but it's also a love story. There's a serious science-fiction element and some strange special effects. Those who love the film debate the meaning of its mysterious outcome, which is open to any number of interpretations. But on that day at Sundance, most viewers seemed to interpret the ending of "Donnie Darko" this way: Thank God it's over!

See CULT FLICKS, Page C9

Festival features 'Domestic Crusaders'

By Suzanne LaFetra
CORRESPONDENT

Wajahat Ali didn't set out to write an earthshaking play. The Berkeley student was taking a short story course from Pulitzer Prize nominee Ishmael Reed. When his professor pulled him aside and told him he was a natural playwright, Ali couldn't believe it. "I thought it was pure nonsense," Ali says. Reed encouraged Ali to write a Muslim-American response to 9-11. "All I wanted to do was pass a class," says Ali, who succeeded in doing much more than that.

Coached by Ishmael Reed and his wife, Carla Blank, Ali's assignment grew into the original play "Domestic Crusaders." Selections from the play will be performed at the Oakland Art & Soul Festival during Labor Day weekend.

Carla Blank has been working with young people in theater for more than 15 years, and is the director of "Domestic Crusaders." Ali's talent stands out to her, and she feels his work is very promising. "For a first play, it's incredibly ready to go," Blank says.

"Domestic Crusaders" chronicles one day in the life of a Muslim-American family in a post-9-11 world. The play's political messages are strong, but the context is more about the human interactions between three generations of the Pakistani-American family's squabbles.

Blank was drawn to the play because of its honesty. She tells



PERFORMERS IN "Domestic Crusaders" rehearse. Selections from the play will be performed at the Oakland Art & Soul Festival over Labor Day weekend.

of the auditions for the play, and the reaction of the mostly Muslim-American applicants. "They were just amazed that he was brave enough to say the things he was saying, and that it sounded so real, the way a family would be talking," she says.

"Domestic Crusaders" draws back the curtain on a Pakistani-American family, showing the complicated world of pressures in being both Muslim and American today. "It's a contemporary play, a very important play," says Blank. "To be immersed in the

point of view of someone who is Muslim-American is a rare opportunity," she says.

Kim McMillon is one of the producers of the Oakland Literature Expo, part of the Oakland Art & Soul Festival. She invited Ali to present his play in the coveted slot just prior to the American Book Awards.

"Domestic Crusaders" represents Muslim-American voices that have not been heard because we are living in a country whose

IF YOU GO

- **WHAT:** "Domestic Crusaders," a staged reading at the Art & Soul festival.
- **WHEN:** Sunday, Sept. 5 at 1 p.m.
- **WHERE:** Oakland Art & Soul Festival, in front of The Federal Building, 1301 Clay St. (between 12th and 14th streets).
- **HOW MUCH:** \$5 entrance fee for festival, kids under 12 free.
- **INFO:** www.ArtAndSoul.Oakland.org

See CRUSADE, Page C9

Playhouse new offer

"JOSEPH and the Amazing Technicolor Coat" opens a week from today — Sept. 10 — at the Community Playhouse, 1000 Ave. for a week. Oct. 9. This is a production of the City of Pinole performing Arts Youth Party Day.

"Dreams" and "The B. B. King" are his coat of arms. Work of Andre and 1m Rice.

Heading a cast of and dancers, ranging from 13 to 24, are: cido as Joseph, with Michelle McGowan. Narrators. And to name from this play emerging thespians to Ricky Pagan and time-ever solo. Extra.

Pat King is married with Anjee Norpage. her magic as choreographer Kim Tolman is the set design and work. Joe Ojeda set construction.

One of the women shows at the Pinole is how this group of nity theater folks mount such big productions into the space with its always decorated tables. Big time. Beats me.

In addition to the Saturday night "Dreamcoat" can days at 2 p.m. on Sept. 10 and Oct. 3.

Tickets are \$10 for seniors and students. 724-9844.

HELP! STRETCH QUEE: And here she falls naturally into first prize for the play this season down to Pine Hill. Kensington, for a breath and let it out.

"The Battered Mary and Jesus" Nut, and the Nut Hit Carols in a William Gibson.

Berkeley director Davis, who will show large flock to his group on Dec. 10, 11 and 12, is a helpful, "this is not a Christmas play, never have known."

Auditions for men and four women held at the Community Church, 1000 Kensington, Oct. 9. The actors who play the Angel need to be but may actually be possibly younger. Begin Oct. 26.

For an appointment, Betty Webster at 724-9844.

ROPIN' THE EAST: the chance, experience a Native of the World along the way. Niagara Falls Canyon Beethoven formed on music — there I'm an — should be higher. James Dunn's version of "The James Shrew," now playing San Rafael, Pinole Marin Shakespeare.

Plays Fridays and Sundays under Forest Meadows Dominican (724-9844). Sept. 25. Call 415-724-9844 for prices and times.

Director Dorn into the saddle final ride of his award-winning. Originally presented spring of 1971, Marin's Studio Theatre's "emission" actually went on Fringe (1971) and performance for Princess Margaret audiences the

Reach Jack Tucker at 262-2768.

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Friday, September 3, 2004

Section D

Section D

Revised styling creates new look for '05 Jaguar S-Type R

Jaguar used subtle styling cues to create a sensational new look for the 2005 S-Type. Its appearance is dynamic.

The restyling of the front end is so subtly subtle it is not immediately obvious. I recently test-drove the 2005 S-Type R with a base price of \$58,330. One afternoon I had the chance to do a side-by-side comparison of the 2005 S-Type to an older model. I was about to pull away from the swanky shopping center where I had just shelled out \$3 on a cup of coffee, when I noticed a gentleman drive by in his Jaguar S-Type R. And I thought, "Wait a minute, his S-Type R doesn't look as big as mine."

After he parked and went inside, I pulled into the spot right along side his Jag, got out and did a walk-around, taking in the extensive styling revisions to the 2005 model. As I was observing the differences, another gentleman walked by and said, "I like the silver one better." He was referring to my tester with the platinum exterior paint.

The revised styling on the 2005 Jaguar is more flattering to the vehicle's dynamic performance capabilities. The exterior lines are curvaceous and muscular. The lines on the earlier model S-Type are softer and look more like the body lines used on the entry-level X-Type.

The styling focal point is on the unique grille and twin headlamps, which for 2005 is strongly emphasized with protruded roundness. My conclusion is that the designers did a fantastic job bringing the styling of the 2005 model more in line with the robust, 390-horsepower prowess of the S-Type R tester.

The S-Type R has a supercharger and is immensely satisfy-



MOTOR MATTERS

THE GRILLE AND TWIN headlamps are the styling focal point and is strongly emphasized with protruded roundness. Jaguar does style right. The 2005 S-Type is the meow of the catwalk.

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Keane on Wheels

ing to drive. The 4.2-liter, 32-valve supercharged V8 delivers 390 horsepower at 6,100 rpm and 399 pounds-foot of torque at just 3,500

See KEANE, Page D2

INSIDE

Classic Classics Page 2

Q&A Page 2

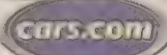
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Price as Tested	\$63,995
Engine Type	32-valve DOHC supercharged V-8 w/MPFI
Horsepower	390 @ 6,100 rpm
Torque	399 @ 3,500 rpm
Transmission	Four-speed automatic
Wheelbase	115 inches
Height	56 inches
Curb Weight	3,969 pounds
Fuel Capacity	18 gallons
Mileage	City/highway 17/24



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1955 Mercury Montclair purchased fully restored

Bill Paris had a 15-year-old yellow Plymouth convertible in 1955 when he graduated from high school in Pembroke, Mass.

A defining moment in his life occurred that summer when his father, Wynne, drove home in a new yellow Mercury convertible. Not only was the car spectacular, but his father gave him the keys to the car on a liberal basis.

Life was good for the 18-year-old the year that he got hooked on Mercurys. After college and a globe-spanning career in the Army, Paris settled in Virginia. Soon after, he purchased a 1955 Mercury Montclair two-door hardtop and commenced the restoration process.

As he encountered problems, he would seek out restoration specialists who could offer assistance or, at least, point him in the correct direction. More often than not, the people from whom he sought help referred him to Crandall Bookman of Marietta, Ohio, a man who specialized in the restoration of 1955 Mercurys and knew every minute

VERN PARKER Classic Classics

detail of the car.

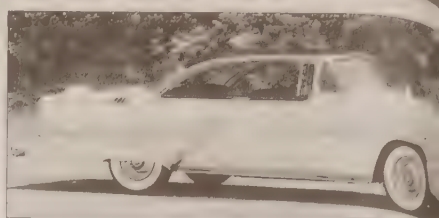
Bookman was generous with his expertise and offered a solution to every dilemma Paris presented. At one point he even traveled from southeastern Ohio to northern Virginia to offer advice in person.

Paris was slowly progressing with his restoration when he learned that Bookman was advertising his own 1955 Mercury for sale. On the old adage that the cobbler's child either has no shoes or the best shoes, Paris decided to abandon his own amateur restoration project and buy the master's car. The deal was done and the 17.2-foot-long Tuxedo black-over-Yukon yellow "bumble bee" Mercury was loaded into a closed truck in Ohio.

As the gorgeous 3,490-pound Mercury was rolled off the truck in Virginia on its

7.10x15-inch white sidewall Firestone tires mounted on red wheels, the odometer had just recorded 47,000 miles. While unauthenticated, it seems plausible considering the condition of the car when Bookman began the restoration. For years he had been gathering new or like-new accessories that had been available on 1955 Mercurys. Once he found a good, solid Montclair two-door hardtop, Bookman loaded the car with all of his accumulated factory accessories.

When new, the Mercury, with a 198 horsepower, 292 cubic-inch V8, carried a base price of \$2,631. When loaded, Paris says, that price could be doubled. For example, the power brakes cost \$38 extra, the AM radio with rear speaker was \$90, the power windows were \$95 and power



WHEN NEW, the Mercury, with a 198 horsepower, 292 cubic-inch V8, carried a base price of \$2,631.

steering was an extra \$100. The Merc-O-Matic transmission added \$189 to the escalating price, but the killer accessory, price-wise, was the first-year offering, from Mercury, of air conditioning for \$650.

Serial numbers on the 3,490-pound Mercury indicate that it was built at the Wayne, Ind., plant — one of a total of 71,588 such models manufactured at four facilities.

Visual clues that this Mercury is air conditioned are the chrome-plated vents on the flanks that draw air into the compressor, which is in the trunk. Clear plastic tubes between the rear package shelf and the headliner deliver cool air from the unit in the trunk up through ductwork in the roof and out through four chrome-plated vents down into the passenger compartment.

The heart of a "Multi-Luber" system is a vacuum pump in the car that, when activated, lubricates all the grease fittings under the car. "The feature," Paris says, "are the lights and the bit on the matching the roof color." In order to refuel the car, you better learn to be a mechanic. "They got the chrome-plated car," Paris says. "When an aficionado buys a restored or a previously restored car, you better learn to be a mechanic." For your car to appear in the Classics column, send a 3/4 view, brief details and a photo to: Vern Parker, 2221 S. Vienna, VA 22181

Road

FROM PAGE D1

in the VQ series, the new 4.0-liter version includes advanced features, such as electronic throttle control programmed for a softer response when traveling with the transfer case in low range. Continuous valve timing and variable induction control are also part of the new engine package.

Every 2005 Pathfinder is equipped with a standard electronically-controlled five-speed automatic transmission. Like previous generations, Pathfinder is available in four-wheel, or four-wheel drive configurations. Two versions of four-wheel drive are available. The simplest and least expensive is a part-time system where the driver can select two-wheel, four-wheel high, or four-wheel low ranges. The premium system allows the driver to select all three of the ranges of the base system, but provides an AUTO mode that automatically applies power to the front wheel when slippage is detected.

A major drivetrain enhancement for 2005 is an off-road traction system. By sensing wheel slip, the system applies the brakes to individual wheels to minimize wheel slip and maximize traction. The new Hill Descent Control system allows going down steep hills without the constant application of brakes. HDC must be engaged by the driver and is available only when traveling in 4-high or 4-low. It can be activated at speeds up to 31 mph in 4H and 15 mph in 4LO. When properly equipped, Pathfinder can tow up to 6,000 pounds.

Another new feature for Nissan is what they call hill start assist. The concept is nothing new, since it was installed on

Studebakers over 50 years ago. Back then they called it "hill-holder." It is a system that, when the car is stopped at a hill, keeps the brakes on — even if the driver takes his foot off the brakes — until the driver presses the accelerator. Subaru has an identical system and one has to wonder why all manufacturers don't adopt it. The technology varies from car to car, but it is a huge help when driving in hilly places like San Francisco.

Considering the increase in outside dimensions, there is obviously more room inside. Now, there's seating for a theoretical seven occupants with the addition of third row seating. That third row was made possible by a longer wheelbase, and the change to an independent rear suspension where the shock towers don't interfere with rear passenger/cargo space. The seats flip, flop, fold, and allow an astounding 64 different seating and cargo configurations. We say theoretical because some of the seats are not realistically intended for adults, and children will not be happy in the third row on a long trip. Even so, with all of the seats flipped and folded properly, something 10 feet long can be carried inside.

The new Pathfinder has more space, more power, and more of everything else, but one has to wonder about market timing. With large SUV sales declining, does a larger, heavier Pathfinder have a place in a rapidly changing scenario? The answer is probably yes. Nissan has the Murano for those who want a light-duty, all-weather-capable vehicle, but there's still a large part of the market which needs a comfortable vehicle that can tow heavy loads, traverse unpaved roads, and provide the bulletproof dependability and reliability that Pathfinder has traditionally offered.

Keane

FROM PAGE D1

rpm. It is mated to a six-speed automatic transmission and features beautiful and powerful Brembo disc brakes with ABS. The S-Type R also comes with standard equipment with Computer Active Suspension and Dynamic Stability Control. This rear-wheel drive sedan really moves very nicely. Jaguar reports that 0-to-60 mph is achieved in 5.3 seconds.

The model lineup starts with the S-Type 3.0 at \$44,895. This base model has a naturally aspirated 3.0-liter V6 that delivers 235 horsepower and 216 pounds-foot of torque. In the middle of the lineup is the S-Type 4.2 with a starting price of \$51,995. Unlike the supercharged 4.2-liter V8 in my top-of-the-line tester, the middle model has a naturally aspirated 4.2-liter V8, which produces 294 horsepower at 6,000 rpm and 303 pounds-foot of torque.

My test-drive Jaguar featured optional equipment, pushing the as-tested price up to \$63,995. It had a \$2,300 navigation system, and a \$2,200 Adaptive Cruise Control system.

In addition to allowing the driver to maintain a preset cruising speed, adaptive cruise control detects slower moving vehicles ahead and reduces the cruise speed which then adjusts to the preset cruise control when traffic speeds up.

The test model came with the optional \$500 Aluminum Trim package, which is a new feature for 2005. Jaguar says the aluminum finish package is reminiscent of a style made famous in Jaguar sports cars, such as the 1961 XKE and E-Type. It is now the first time S-Type owners can choose an interior without wood trim. Interior leather trims come in Champagne, Charcoal, Dove and Ivory. Two-tone trims are offered, and wood veneers include Grey Birds-Eye Maple, Burr Walnut and Bronze Madrona.

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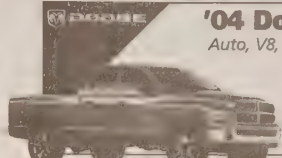
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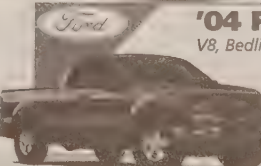
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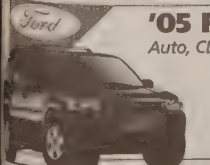
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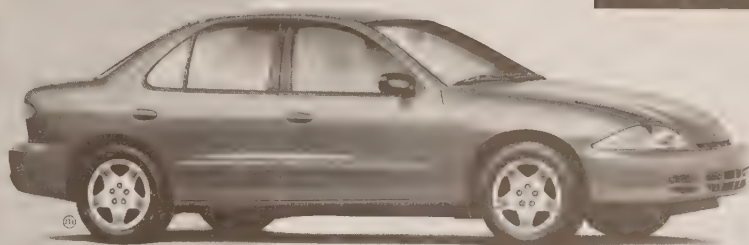


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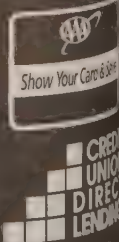
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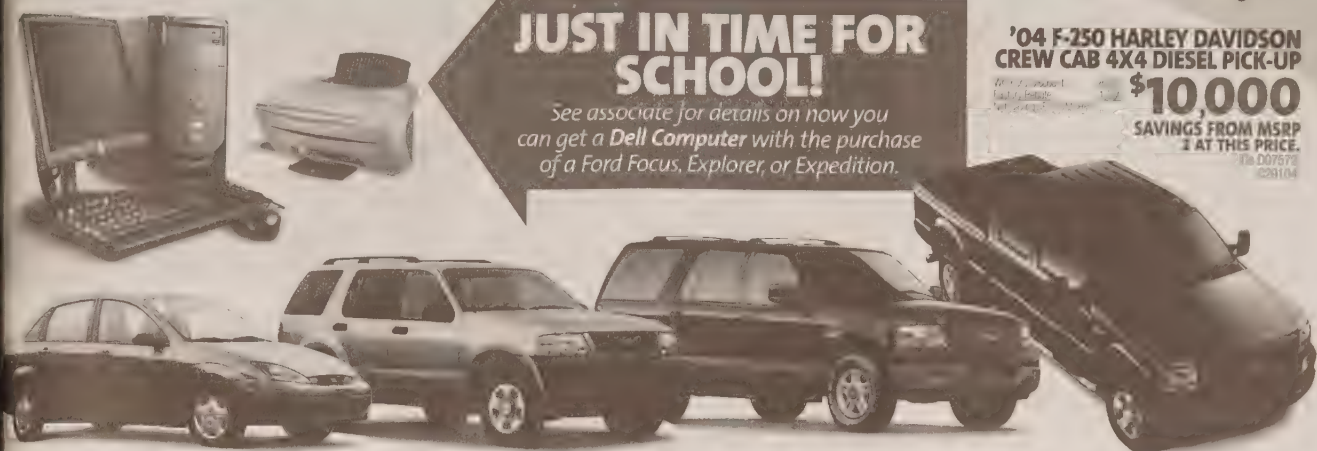
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(off Judsonville) All sz. clothes, baby items, refrigerator, beds, en- tertainment, etc. shoes, furn., hshhd. toys, books, bedding</p> <p>SAT 9/4, 8-1 214 West Madill St Treadmill \$80, lighted bed headboard, w/lin- nens, mirror, cabs, & dvr's, like new \$300, tbl. \$25, elec. lawnmower \$40; misc. items, lawn tools, like new \$45; futon \$75 odds & ends, & ladies clothes size 18-20. Cash only</p> <p>SATURDAY 9/4, 9-3 2801 BLUECURL CT. Exercise equip., coun- try decorating items, Denby pottery service for 12 + MUCH MORE!</p> <p>YVON BILE 4913 Stonewood Way SAT ONLY 9-1PM LABOR DAY WEEKEND! FURNITURE, HOUSEWARE & TOYS!</p>	<p>Bay Point</p> <p>ESTATE SALE SATURDAY 8am-1pm 1212 Bayview Dr. Pwr. tools, indoor & outdoor furn., exerc. equip., clothes, lots of misc. All must go!!</p> <p>ESTATE SALE Saturday & Sunday Sept. 4 & 5 9:30-4:30 56 Gerald Court. BayPoint Appliances Bdrn. furn. Books Bldg. materials. Coffee tbl. Collectibles. Furn. Items. Kitchenware Men's clothes. Sport- ing gds. Stereo. Toys CR TV Women's clothes. Lots of misc. No Early Birds Hshd. Left on Canal Rd. Left on Virginia Rd. right in to Gerald Ct.</p> <p>Berkeley</p> <p>2137 Rose St (at Oxford) Sat. Sept 4th 9-3pm furn. chests of draw- ers, bookcases, baby cribs, inflatable matt. etro. luggage, persn. carpets, Aquariums & equip. lots of misc.</p> <p>Brentwood</p> <p>5-FAMILY SATURDAY 9/4, 8-1 14 WINDMILL CT. (Balfour to Sweetgrass) furn. clothes, baby/kid items & misc items!</p> <p>GARAGE SALE Fri. (9/3) & Sat. (9/4) 8 AM. to 5 P.M. Furniture, Appliances Furn., kitchenware, CD's, DVD's & games. Exercise equip., toys clothes, odds & ends.</p> <p>SATURDAY - 1 DAY ONLY Sept. 4, 9am - 2pm. No Early Birds 225 Pepperwood Ct.</p>	<p>Concord</p> <p>MOVING SALE! Everything Must Go! Stereo sys., kid's items, clothes, and MUCH MORE! 2526 Walters Way #5 Sat. & Sun. 10AM-5PM 925-349-4446</p> <p>MOVING SALE SAT 9/4 9am to 3pm 4024 Treat Blvd. W/D. daybed, refig., bookcase, coffee tbl., kitchen table, freezer, double bed, & other misc. items.</p> <p>MOVING/TREASURE SALE Baby items, furn., com- puter parts, printer, lamps, much more! Sat 9/4 8-3, 4427 Weeping Spruce Ct. (Walnut Country)</p> <p>- MULTI - FAMILY - Multi-Family Sale Saturday 8-5 742 Reva Dr. Appliances Aquarium bookcase Dln. rm. furn. hshhd. items. Toys TV & misc.</p> <p>MULTI SELLER SALE 733 San Ardo Ct. Sat. Sept. 4th, 7-2pm Early birds welcome misc kids items, cloth- es, furn. gear, bed, lg. wood deck, other furn.</p> <p>Danville</p> <p>336 RAMONA RD. SAT. 9/4, 7AM-1PM Lg. assortment of furn., hshhd. items Incl. pots, pans, glass- ware, & kitchen items No preview! Doors won't be open until 7!!</p> <p>BACKYARD Moving Sale SAT. 9/4, 11-1pm 447 Shanna Ct. Luggage, furn., cloth- ing, mirrors, sofa, pa- tio set, chairs, comput- er equip., bikes, toys, decorator access.</p> <p>EVERYTHING MUST GO (2 bks behind 5RHS) SAT. ONLY, 9-4PM Household items, anti- ques, toys, misc & MUCH MORE!</p> <p>GARAGE SALE Saturday 9/5, 12-4pm 318 Verona Ave. Clothes, men's women girls', & baby's, camp- ing equip., bikes, toys, Knicks, Knacks, etc.</p> <p>HUGE BACKYARD SALE! Furniture, beds, desks, tables, clothing, baby supplies Sat 9/4, 8am-noon 509 Old Farm Ct</p> <p>MOVING SALE Saturday Only 9-1pm Clothes, men's women girls', & baby's, camp- ing equip., bikes, toys, Knicks, Knacks, etc.</p> <p>MOVING SALE SAT. 9/4, 8-1pm 5026 Concord St. Saturday Only 9-1pm Chrs. only 9am-3pm Cherry desk Knack Clothes Jg stroller bike rack/d trailer MISC Cash only</p> <p>MOVING SALE ALL MUST GO! Toys, appl's, cars, oak Ca. King, 4 poster bed, 6 pc. ent. ctr. tbl. saw, w/b, dvr. SAT/SUN 8am-3pm 4 BUENO COURT</p> <p>MULTI-FAM Sale! SATURDAY 8-2pm 209 Glen Meadow Ct. Sample sale: hshhd items, furn., kitch. table, sofa bed, refrigerator, body products, new baby clothes & toys, books, pics, x-mas de- corations, fabrics, etc.</p> <p>ReModel Sale Sat. 9/4/04, 8:00am 55 Northwood Ct. Bookcases, table, Refrig., and 3 Piece En- tertainment Center - White Wash Oak</p>	<p>Discovery Bay</p> <p>REMODEL/YARD SALE SAT. 9/4, 8am-1pm 5136 CABRILLO PT. Furn., clothes, oak cab's, toys, misc.</p> <p>Dublin</p> <p>GARAGE SALES A 7015 CENUR COURT 6629 SPRUCE LAKE SAT. 9/4, 8AM-3PM Lots of new products, & good things Come & See!!</p> <p>GARAGE SALE Sat. 9am-4pm 8301 Mulberry Pl. (off of Winberry, N. of Dublin H.S.) furn., clothes, hshhd. & lots of misc.</p> <p>LARGE MOVING-IN SALE SAT. 9/4, 8AM-2PM 833 LOCUST PLACE (Village Parkway) Household, decor., clothes, books, furn., collectibles, & MORE!</p> <p>MOVING SALE "Lots of furniture" computer & backyard items & lawn mower 8111 Locust Place S. Sat. Sept. 4, 8am-3pm</p> <p>El Sobrante</p> <p>ANNUAL SHERWOOD Forest Neighborhood Garage Sale Sept. 4 SAT. ONLY, 9am-3pm Over 40 families - 100 MUCH TO LIST! 5811 Robin Hood Dr.</p> <p>ESTATE SALE The largest single fam- ily estate sale in histo- ry. Sat 9/4, Sun 7-10 Most kinds of power tools & lots of heavy equip., furniture, hshd. items, business equipment, & more. Absolutely too much to list. Call 4387 Santa Rita Rd.</p> <p>MOVING SALE SAT & SUN 9/4-5 9am to 4pm 5405 Martin Ct. Good quality furniture, and lots more.</p> <p>YARD SALE Benefitting Children's Hospital Sat. Sept. 4, 9am-4pm 3630 Olinda Road Tax Id #94227650</p> <p>Lafayette</p> <p>GARAGE SALE FUNDRAISER for World Furniture Relief Mar- ch. Sat. Sept. 4, 10-4 733 Glenfield Circle Books, hshhd. items Clothes Jg stroller bike rack/d trailer MISC Cash only</p> <p>- MULTI - FAMILY - HUGE W/Low PRICES! Too much to list! Countless Families! CASH ONLY SAT/SUN 8am-3pm MONDAY 9-NOON Pleasant Hill Rd to Condit-999 Leiland</p> <p>Livermore</p> <p>MULTI-FAM SALE! SATURDAY 9-2pm Oak breakfest set, Com- puter, hutch, 2nd hand Accord, books, On size sofa bed & More!</p>	<p>Martinez</p> <p>VENDOR SPACE AVAILABLE MARTINEZ COMMUNITY STREET SALE! 1000's of Shoppers. Furniture, plant con- tainers, lamps, 2 din. tbls., concrete garden statuary, wall art, etc</p> <p>VENDOR SPACE AVAILABLE MARTINEZ COMMUNITY STREET SALE! 1000's of Shoppers. Furniture, plant con- tainers, lamps, 2 din. tbls., concrete garden statuary, wall art, etc</p> <p>2 Fam. Garage Sale Sat. Sept. 4, 8 to 3, 1531 Ridgewood Dr, Mtz. Bar- by Items Books Exer- cise equip. Furn. hshhd. items. Table Toys Lots of misc. Cross street Midhill off Morelio</p> <p>3 Family Book Sale 621 Walnut Ave Friday Only 11-3pm Furniture, books, toys, items, clothing, etc.</p> <p>GARAGE SALE 8/3 & 9/4 8-3pm 4009 Via Estrella Rd. Toys, hshhd. items, beauty supplies, clothes, etc.</p> <p>MOVING SALE 400 Orms View Ave. SAT 9/4 8am to 2pm Furniture, tools, hshd. refrig., compit, dining room set, trampolene, portable basketball court, and lots more.</p> <p>SATURDAY & SUNDAY 7am-4pm. 920 Vine Ave. Kitchen appliances, fur- niture, tools & more! Furniture, tools & more! Furniture, tools & more!</p> <p>SUNDAY 7AM-3PM 1356 PALMVALE Multi-Family Sale Lots of goodies. Birdcage, TV, & more!</p>	<p>Oakland</p> <p>ESTATE SALE Sat. 9/4, 9-1pm 1571 East 38th St Merchandise from Be- yond Flowers, floral & jarden store access, furniture, plant con- tainers, lamps, 2 din. tbls., concrete garden statuary, wall art, etc</p> <p>GLENVIEW GARAGE SALE Furn., hshd. & adult clothing, books, toys, outdoor planters & misc. items Sun Sept. 5, 10am-2pm 25 Neva Ct.</p> <p>- MULTI - FAMILY - HUGE SALE 9/4 & 5 10-3pm 1419 Excelsior Ave. Furn. Lots of misc.</p> <p>Moving Sale 9/4 to 10 to 3 647 Colby & Alcatraz Bldg. materials, furni- ture, hshhd. items, great clothes & lots of cool stuff.</p> <p>MOVING SALE Moving Sale Sat., Sept. 4, 8-3 58 Sereno Circle Bdrn. furn. Books. Coffee tbl. Collectibles. Dln. rm. furn. End tbls. Exercise equip. Furn. hshhd. items, kitchen- ware, hshhd. items, Lamps Tbl. VCR. Women's clothes. Lots of misc. From 13 up Red- wood Road to Sereno Circle</p> <p>SELLERS WANTED FOR 80+ Family Flea Mar- ket in Montclair Park. Sept. 11. Sponsored by the Montclair Lyons Club. For info call Michael: 510-238-7609</p>	<p>Pacheco</p> <p>LABOR DAY SALE!! Furn., glassware, Tools Country & Garden. 5807 PACHECO BLVD. (N. of Sunvalley Blvd.) Sat./Sun/Mon 10-5 833-3333</p> <p>Garage Sale! Fri 9/3 & Sat 9/4 9am-3pm 1551 Port Way Furniture, children's items, lots of top quality stuff.</p> <p>MULTI FAMILY SALE Sat 9/4, 8am-2pm Designer clothes, shoes, household goods.</p>	<p>Piedmont</p> <p>Garage Sale! SAT & SUN 8am-4pm 94 Dudley Ave./Blair Antique, hshhd. items, furn. plates, (2) Dlnel dresses, garden tools, plants, pots, Mosses stone & much more!</p> <p>Garage Sale! SAT & SUN 8am-4pm 94 Dudley Ave./Blair Antique, hshhd. items, furn. plates, (2) Dlnel dresses, garden tools, plants, pots, Mosses stone & much more!</p>	<p>Pinole</p> <p>Garage Sale! SAT & SUN 8am-4pm 94 Dudley Ave./Blair Antique, hshhd. items, furn. plates, (2) Dlnel dresses, garden tools, plants, pots, Mosses stone & much more!</p> <p>Garage Sale! SAT & SUN 8am-4pm 94 Dudley Ave./Blair Antique, hshhd. items, furn. plates, (2) Dlnel dresses, garden tools, plants, pots, Mosses stone & much more!</p>	<p>Pleasant Hill</p> <p>SATURDAY 9-2 59 St. Thomas Ln. Burley bike trlr. for 2. Thomas toy chrs. Lego table, girls 12 in. bike, glass shelves, an- tique canning jars, lot of toys & much more!</p> <p>SUNDAY 8/5, 9-4PM 1567 Terry Wy. (X St. Taylor) Hshd. items, books, bike, deck, filling cabs & sporting gds.</p> <p>2 FAMILY SALE 2691 Calle Alegre SAT. ONLY, 8:30-1PM Household items, kids stuff, MISC & MORE!</p> <p>MOVING SALE MOVING/MUST SELL SAT 8AM-5PM 3047 Ferndale Ct. Appliances, Furn. Garden equip. Kitch- enware, tools, hshhd. Stereo at Santa Rita g 1 mile east on W Las Positas, turn right on Ferndale</p> <p>MULTI-FAMILY SALE! 1597 MAPLELEAF DR. (corner of Mapleleaf & Nurser) SAT. 9/4, 8AM-11AM</p> <p>MULTI-FAMILY SALE Sat 9/4, 8-1 1521 Oasen St. Furn., kitchen items, audio, video, DVD's, bks, & much more!</p> <p>MOVING/MUST SELL GARAGE SALE SAT 8AM-5PM Off Ridgewood between Mapleleaf & Nurser Saturday 9/4 8-1pm 925-398-7156</p> <p>SUNDAY ONLY 8 AM. to 2 P.M. 3052 Badger Dr. No Early Birds Bosch power tools, books, antique bed, & miscellaneous stuff</p>	<p>Richmond</p> <p>MOVING SALE Sunday Only 12-6pm 2818 San Luis St. (X St. Central @ I-80) Big collection of Chinese/Japanese porcelaine, & old orien- tal rugs + other items.</p> <p>MULTI FAMILY SALE Sat 9/4, 8:30-3 710 35th St. Books, coffee table, collectibles, furn., gar- den equip., glassware, hshhd. items, kitchen- ware, lamps, & misc</p> <p>TARA HILLS BLOCK SALE SAT. 9-2 2700 blk. Cornelius Dr. Antiques, Tupperware, baby things, clothes, Christmas decorations & Household items.</p> <p>YARD SALE! Sat. 9/4 8am-1pm 2135 Costa Avenue (X St. 23rd/Hwyem) Hshd. items, women's plus sizes, children, furniture & much more!</p> <p>SAT 9/4, 9 A.M. 608 Quaxymos Ct. (off Marsh Dr.) Group sale of old col- lectibles, hall tree, roll top desk, dishes, 2 bikes, men, women's toys & clothes & more!</p> <p>SAT/SUN 9/4-5, 8-1 902 Vista Pointe Dr (off Bollinger) Furniture, hshhd. items & lots of misc</p> <p>Walnut Creek</p> <p>2326 Larlet Ln SAT. ONLY, 9-1PM Children's/baby items, books, furn., clothes pat. cut, VW New Bee Ls Sports rack & bike r/ski attachment wind- surfer. No Early Birds</p> <p>25 YEARS OF STUFF 2718 Leaning Oak Ct. Sun. Sept. 5, 8am-1pm.</p> <p>BBQ Clothes, toys, bed linens, summer furn., lots of extra furn., 3175 KIRBY LANE off Valley Vista Rd Thurs. & Fri 9-3pm</p> <p>Estate Sale 4101 Modoc Ct./Mercedino Sat- Sept. 4 10am-5pm TV's, jewelry, photos sofa, rugs, lamps, mir- rors, projectors, freezer, tools, BBQ, Kimball piano & more</p> <p>SAT. SEP. 4, 10-3 290 Lakewood Rd. Books, dining rm. tbl., antique sewing mach, hutch & screen, lots of interesting stuff. (Homestead to Lakewood)</p> <p>MOVING SALE SAT 9/4, 8AM-4PM Upright freezer, queen bdrn. set, twin bed, bedding, maple dining room tbl., w/2 leaves, pads, 4 chrs. + captain chr., 2 china cabs, end tbls., occasional chrs., linens, kids' toys & washon, some garden tools, house plants, books & MORE!</p>
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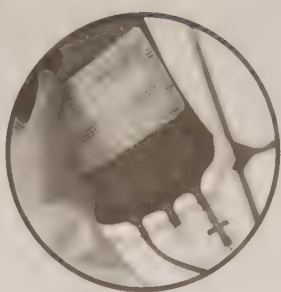
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Refs. req. nonsmk. 925-671-2354</p> <p>DAYS HELPER for 11 yr. old boy after sch. P/T. Drive, i. cooking. San Ramon. 925-336-1234</p> <p>NANNIES F/T/P/T. live-in/out. Care along T. Hwy. 925-685-4883</p> <p>NANNY Benicia. 2 boys ages 5 & 8. youngest has special needs. P/T. speak English. CDL, exp. ref. req. nec. Call (707) 747-9410</p> <p>NANNY Live-in/out. i. San Ramon's sch. children. L. tsking. Own car. Nonsmk. 925-785-7089; 925-551-5339</p> <p>NANNY loving & nurturing. Moraga. i. hskpr. Mon/Tue/Thur/Fri 7-7PM or 12-7PM. Exp. refs. CDL req. English spko. 925-376-4422</p> <p>NANNY Must have CDL. car. poss. live in. Lvrnr 925-373-1926</p>	<p>ACCOUNTING CIO, an established local tax/cred. insurance agency, seeking individual to join our Accounting Department team. Growing entrepreneurial organization. Must have applied system or comparable insurance accounting automation system experience and a minimum of three years experience in accounting area with an insurance agency/broker. 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CHIRON

Our discoveries lead to more opportunities.

No biotech company has had a greater impact on human health worldwide than us! Headquartered in Emeryville, Chiron is a multi-dimensional company with businesses in biopharmaceuticals, vaccines and blood testing. With more than 5500 employees worldwide, Chiron has been at the forefront of improving lives around the globe.

*We believe in hiring excellent people,
and as we continue to grow, we're looking for talented, dynamic individuals for the following:*

DIRECTOR, CLINICAL (MD)

Manage the development and medical monitoring of clinical trials. Design, prepare and initiate study protocols and other required documentation in compliance with project plans, federal regulations, GCP, and good medical practice. Research and select investigators. Analyze and interpret study data and prepare reports for FDA and publication. Requires MD with strong background in Infectious diseases/pediatrics/preventive medicine and familiarity with clinical trials. Vaccine trial experience highly desired. Additional experience in clinical medicine, pharmaceutical medicine and/or regulatory affairs supported by publications preferred. Please send resume to jobs@chiron.com, referencing job 44001905-KO.

QA MANAGER

Coordinate activities associated with DR resolution for clinical products. Summarize Investigational data and information and prepare written QA evaluations of investigations; assist in development of corrective action plans; evaluate effectiveness of corrective action; support issue specific training programs for clinical manufacturing personnel; provide support for both internal and external clinical manufacturing programs, including person-in-the-plant activities; and review and approve labeling documents for clinical trial material. Requires BA/BS in the Biological Sciences. At least 6 years related technical experience and at least 2 years in a supervisory capacity with significant QA experience. Sound knowledge of clinical requirements for all phases of clinical manufacturing, and a thorough knowledge of cGMP for drugs and biologics manufacturing. Please apply at www.chiron.com, referencing job 44002505-JS.

PRINCIPAL SCIENTIST, DEVELOPMENT

In this challenging position, you'll participate in the development, assay validation, and assay transfer with Analytical Development, Analytical Operation, and other Chiron Divisions. You'll also be responsible for assay troubleshooting for QC Operations and QC Raw Materials, the scientific review of the stability program of commercial products, participation in the characterization of degradation products with the above mentioned Chiron divisions, involvement in Chiron manufacturing activities through equipment cleaning validation and particulate analysis. Generating reports for in-house and external submissions to regulatory agencies as well as participation in multidisciplinary product development teams are also functions of this position. Position requires PhD in Chemistry, Biochemistry, or related discipline with emphasis in Analytical Chemistry, including 5+ years of relevant technical and supervisory experience. The ideal candidate must have strong technical proficiency with HPLC method development. Additional familiarity with a wide range of protein analytical techniques including spectroscopy, electrophoresis, and mass spectrometry is essential. Please apply at www.chiron.com, referencing job 44001784-JS.

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, DEVELOPMENT

Lead a group of 10-15 Scientists and Associates to develop and manufacture small molecule oral formulations to support clinical development and commercialization. Provide technical leadership and project management strategy for small molecule drug product development and interface with cross-functional groups drawn from Research, Development, Operations and Marketing. Requires PhD in the Pharmaceutical Sciences or related discipline with 10+ years of experience in a pharmaceutical R&D environment. A solid understanding of physical chemistry, formulation and process development of oral solid dosage forms, biopharmaceuticals and technology transfer is desired. Please apply at www.chiron.com, referencing job 44002306-JS.

SCIENTIST II, RESEARCH

Scientist I or II, commensurate with experience. Participate in and perform the design, development, execution and implementation of research projects pertaining to the bioassays department. Experience with enzyme assay development (esp. kinases), enzymology, and high-throughput screening formats is required. Requires PhD in a relevant scientific discipline or equivalent. Postdoctoral work and 1-5 years of related experience is desirable, along with experience with laboratory automation, data management, and a sound knowledge of the drug discovery process. Please apply at www.chiron.com, referencing job 44002451-RK.

RESEARCH SCIENTIST

We seek a highly motivated, organized and detail-oriented scientist for a position in our Translational Medicine group. This individual would be involved in variety of efforts supportive of our goal to discover biomarkers and molecular signatures predictive of patient response to therapy. This person will manage a large Tissue Bank, help to develop a database to support the Tissue Bank, and assist in micro array, genotyping and proteomics-based efforts to identify biomarkers. The successful candidate will enjoy working with others, be forward-thinking and respond well to aggressive deadlines. Experience in cell culture, RNA/DNA/protein preparation, RT-PCR, DNA sequencing, ELISA, western blots, gel-shift assays and analysis of Affymetrix micro array-based mRNA expression data is required. Advanced skills in Microsoft Excel are required and experience with Microsoft Access and database design is a plus. A PhD and at least 2 years post doctoral experience required. Please apply at www.chiron.com, referencing job 44002477-RK.

PAYROLL MANAGER

Manage and direct the payroll function, staff of two payroll processing specialists, a HRIS/payroll systems specialist (proposed position), and payroll accountant. Assume timely and accurate payroll processing including verification of data accuracy and communications. Duties include verification of system interfaces; balancing of payroll wage and tax data; and developing and assuring compliance with corporate policy and procedures. Requires a Bachelor's degree in Business/Accounting or equivalent experience and seven to ten years job related experience necessary to perform this job. Management experience is required. Also requires an advanced level of knowledge in accounting, report writing, budgeting, payroll, tax, problem solving, wage & hour law, project management, change management, and policy/process documentation. Please apply at www.chiron.com, referencing job 44002502-DB.

PRINCIPAL SCIENTIST, RESEARCH

Experienced scientist skilled in both protein chemistry and mass spec. Will purify proteins and carry out detailed characterization of them for small molecule and therapeutic protein drug development. Working on multiple projects simultaneously, the candidate will be a member of project teams, planning strategy, and serving as the protein expert. Requires PhD in Biochemistry or related area plus minimum of 4 years of postdoctoral experience in a biotech or pharmaceutical setting. Experience managing direct reports a plus. Must be expert at protein purification and mass spectrometry. Please apply at www.chiron.com, referencing job 44001926-RK.

SPECIALIST I, QA/QC

Assist in the development, revision, application, maintenance, validation, and review of quality standards, documents, and methods of processing and/or ensuring quality in raw materials, intermediates, or finished products. Implement, maintain and/or improve quality systems to meet or exceed regulatory compliance and ISO requirements. This is a full time position within QA, Blood Testing in Emeryville, CA reporting to the NAT Quality Assurance Associate Manager. Requires BS/BA in Biological Sciences with 4 years of appropriate experience, or advanced degree (MS, PhD, or MBA) with 3 years of appropriate experience. Minimum of 3 years of GMP/QSR/ISO and/or QA related experience, at least 2 years of which are in the area of quality assurance and/or compliance. Please apply at www.chiron.com, referencing job 44002427-DB.

QA SPECIALIST I

Assist in the development, revision, application, maintenance, validation, and review of quality standards, documents, and methods for processing and/or ensuring quality in raw materials, intermediates, or finished products. Create, implement, and support production tracking and trending systems and program which assist in the testing, evaluation, and monitoring of production quality. Requires Bachelor's degree or Master's degree in scientific discipline or equivalent, and a minimum of 6 years of related experience. A thorough knowledge of chemical, analytical, and bioanalytical test methods, and process chromatography and fermentation is desirable. Please apply online at www.chiron.com, referencing job 44002435-JS.

SPECIALIST II, QA/QC

Coordinate activities associated with DR resolution; track status of outstanding DRs; distribute routine status reports to management; organize cross-functional meetings to facilitate investigations; publish notes and action items from meetings; and provide support to the investigation process and follow-up to assure timely DR closure. Provide support to other QA functions as needed. Requires BA/BS in the Biological Sciences. At least 4 years related technical experience with significant QA experience. Proven ability to maturely express views and opinions, listen well and accept conflicting points of view. Proven ability as a team player and team leader. Please apply at www.chiron.com, referencing job 44002141-JS.

ANALYST II, LIMS

Create and maintain the Laboratory Information Management System for Environmental Monitoring and Microbiology in a GMP, Part 11 compliant environment. Construct and perform routine maintenance on LIMS templates using LIMS Basic, maintain change control records on all modifications to templates. Assist in resolution of LIMS questions and/or problems reported by end users. Work with Quality Assurance to ensure that all changes and validation activities are done accurately per established regulations and procedures. Requires BA/BS in a scientific discipline with 3 years work experience with LIMS and a firm understanding of a programming language. General knowledge of data trending, cGMP, software validation and laboratory experience in a QA/QC environment preferred. Experience in qualification and validation testing in a GMP or ISO environment. Please apply at www.chiron.com, referencing job 44002139-JS.

RESEARCH SPECIALIST

We are seeking a Research Specialist to join the Translational Medicine group. In this position you will be providing preclinical and clinical biomarker discovery and assay development expertise. Essential technical skills include cell based assays (cell culture of tumor cell lines and primary cells; transfections; isolation and assays using human blood cells), molecular biology (RT-PCR; primer design; DNA and RNA extraction; gel electrophoresis; DNA cloning and transformation) and protein biochemistry (western blot; immunoprecipitation; production of fusion proteins; ELISA). You will support projects that span from research projects to clinical programs. Industry experience and previous work with clinical samples is desired. The candidate should also have a clear understanding of new research methodologies, as well as prior experience in identification and implementation of these technologies to support this research. This position involves extensive interaction with scientists from multiple disciplines, and requires exceptional teamwork skills and the ability to manage multiple projects at once. Computer expertise and excellent written and verbal skills are essential. A Bachelor's or Master's degree in a scientific discipline, and 5-10 years of related experience are required. Please apply at www.chiron.com, referencing job 44002476-RK.

SPECIALIST I, DEVELOPMENT

Conduct the development and validation of analytical methods to support Chiron's biopharmaceutical products development, utilizing multiple HPLC techniques including RP-HPLC, IEX-HPLC, and SEC-HPLC to determine the duties include employing other analytical techniques including peptide map, CE, SDS-PAGE, and UV-Vis spectroscopy to evaluate physicochemical property of products, and fully supporting commercial product and clinical product release testing by providing high quality of analytical methods, assay transfer, and troubleshooting. Requires degree in Chemistry, Biochemistry, or related discipline with emphasis in Analytical Chemistry with 5+ years of relevant experience, and a broad background in chromatography and technical proficiency with HPLC method. Please apply at www.chiron.com, referencing job 44002191-JS.

SPECIALIST I, DEVELOPMENT

Develop oral dosage prototype formulations for new chemical entities, characterize active pharmaceutical ingredient and formulation, and ensure stability of formulation prototypes, prepare batch records, and ensure clinical supplies under cGMP conditions. Work also includes compatibility studies, developing prototype formulations, preparing batches, preparing batch record, ordering raw materials, and ensuring clinical supplies. Requires BS/MS in Pharmaceutical Science or Pharmacy with 2-6 years of experience in pharmaceutical setting, and experiences with HPLC and dissolution testing are preferred. Please apply at www.chiron.com, referencing job 44002102-JS.

DEVELOPMENT ENGINEER II

Responsibilities include designing, executing, analyzing, and process using bench-scale experiment models; working with pilot scale manufacturing staff to troubleshoot larger scale processes; communicating results in reports or presentations. Also, contribute to development of cell lines, fermentation processes, and/or recovery of microbials/animal cell proteins. Requires Bachelor's degree or a Master's degree with 0-2 years experience. Candidates should have experience in microbial or animal cell culture processes to include selection, media development, bioreactor operation and scale up development. Knowledge of basic laboratory procedures and equipment is required. Please apply at www.chiron.com, referencing job 44001998-JS.

ASSOCIATE II, RESEARCH

Currently seeking a BS or MS level synthetic organic chemist for the design and development of novel compounds for new therapeutic agents. Position involves synthesis of novel organic compounds and development of new synthetic methodologies. Drug discovery research applies traditional organic chemistry, medicinal chemistry and pre-development synthesis. Additionally, Research Associates organize experiments, record and register results, and perform reactions under the supervision of a PhD scientist. Requires BS or MS in Organic Chemistry. Proficiency with operation of common laboratory and analytical equipment and ability to interpret NMR, IR, GC, HPLC and MS reports is desired. Ability to use MS Office is preferred. Please apply at www.chiron.com, referencing job 44002159-RK.

SCIENTIST I, RESEARCH

Currently seeking a PhD-level synthetic chemist required to perform research to aid in the discovery and development of novel therapeutic relevant compounds. Will be involved in the synthesis of novel compounds and the development of new synthetic technologies including solid-phase organic chemistry, process chemistry, heterocyclic chemistry, and combinatorial synthesis. Positions requires a PhD in Chemistry with research experience and technical proficiency in synthetic chemistry, including multi-step organic synthesis, purification and characterization. Should have laboratory experience synthesizing small molecules, products, or developing synthetic methodology. Strong written and communication skills are essential, along with the ability to work with teams. Please apply at www.chiron.com, referencing job 44002525-JS.

ASSOCIATE II, RESEARCH

Synthesis of novel organic compounds and development of new methodologies. Drug discovery research applies traditional organic chemistry, medicinal chemistry and pre-development scale-up synthesis. Experimental details, record and register results, and perform reactions under the technical supervision of a PhD scientist. Requires BS or MS in Chemistry. Proficiency with operation of common laboratory and analytical equipment and ability to interpret NMR, IR, GC, HPLC and MS reports is essential. Ability to use MS Office is preferred. Please apply at www.chiron.com, referencing job 44002530-RK/44002531-RK.

OCCUPATIONAL NURSE

Assist ill and injured workers to reach maximum health and safety by coordinating, implementing and evaluating multidisciplinary services to meet the needs of the Chiron population to achieve desired outcomes within designated time frames and business constraints. Requires BA or MS in nursing and valid current license to practice as a registered nurse in California. Knowledge of case management, California workers compensation law, and federal government regulations (OSHA, ADA, FMLA) and those of the nursing experience in community health, ambulatory care, emergency, occupational health. Please send resume, referencing job 44002532-JS to jobs@chiron.com.

AREA BUSINESS MANAGER

Responsible for the management and performance of specific territories, ensuring the fulfillment of territory, region, and divisional sales goals, sales quota, product positioning, expanding the Chiron Vaccine sales base, corporate positioning, and managing operational expenses. Responsible for developing a business plan that is aligned with the marketing and sales direction but individualized to their specific territory. Regional business plan should specify strategy, tactical, and resource allocations necessary to maximize the sales of Chiron Vaccines within that territory. Requires BA or BS degree in a technical field or a business degree. Professional degrees such as RN or Med Tech are also acceptable and a minimum of 5 years of successful pharmaceutical sales experience.

We have open positions for the following territories:

NEW YORK CITY, NY (5 Boroughs Only) • NASHVILLE, TN

ALABAMA/ATLANTA, GEORGIA • NORTH & SOUTH CAROLINA • VIRGINIA

ST. LOUIS, MO • CINCINNATI, OH • INDIANA

ARIZONA/SAN DIEGO, CA • NORTHERN LOS ANGELES, CA

Please email resume to: jobs@chiron.com

referencing territory of interest in the subject box

We also seek professionals in the following areas:

PROCESS DEVELOPMENT • CLINICAL RESEARCH • MANUFACTURING MANAGEMENT • MASTER MECHANIC
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY • RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT • PATENT/LICENSING ASSOCIATES • QUALITY ASSURANCE/QUALITY CONTROL

For application information, and complete job descriptions, please visit:

www.chiron.com

Chiron is proud to be an equal opportunity employer, and we welcome candidates from diverse backgrounds.

careerbuilder

contracostatimes.com/careerbuilder

Employment

BANKING
VISA Specialist
Position is responsible for all phases of plastic card processes. Must possess knowledge of chargeback and dispute procedures. Experience in financial institutions helpful. Please fax your resume to: Safemore Credit Union, 925-460-0126. Attn: HR.

BOOKKEEPER-F/R
Senior bookkeeping position. Candidate must be a self-starter with the ability to multitask, proficient in Excel. Responsibilities include: payables, payroll, budget, sales, and reconciliation. Please fax resume w/ salary history to: 925-460-0126. Attn: HR.

BOOKKEEPER F/T, com
Seeking a bookkeeper for a busy, fast-paced office. Must be experienced in all aspects of bookkeeping, including payroll, and have a good understanding of the accounting cycle. Please fax resume to: 925-460-0126. Attn: HR.

BUS DRIVER, P/T, 20 hrs.
We are seeking a reliable bus driver for a private school. Must have a valid driver's license and a clean record. Please fax resume to: 925-460-0126. Attn: HR.

CABINET MAKERS
We are seeking experienced cabinet makers for a busy shop. Must have several years of experience and be able to work independently. Please fax resume to: 925-460-0126. Attn: HR.

CABLE TV Technician
We are seeking a cable TV technician for a busy company. Must have experience in all aspects of cable TV service, including installation, repair, and maintenance. Please fax resume to: 925-460-0126. Attn: HR.

CANVASSERS: P/T
We are seeking canvassers for a busy company. Must have experience in all aspects of canvassing, including door-to-door sales and telemarketing. Please fax resume to: 925-460-0126. Attn: HR.

CAREGIVERS: live in
We are seeking caregivers for a busy company. Must have experience in all aspects of caregiving, including personal care and companionship. Please fax resume to: 925-460-0126. Attn: HR.

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CARPENTER: Lead
We are seeking a lead carpenter for a busy company. Must have experience in all aspects of carpentry, including framing, finish work, and cabinet making. Please fax resume to: 925-460-0126. Attn: HR.

CARPENTERS: Journey
We are seeking journey carpenters for a busy company. Must have experience in all aspects of carpentry, including framing, finish work, and cabinet making. Please fax resume to: 925-460-0126. Attn: HR.

CARPENTER SUPERVISOR
We are seeking a carpenter supervisor for a busy company. Must have experience in all aspects of carpentry, including framing, finish work, and cabinet making. Please fax resume to: 925-460-0126. Attn: HR.

Employment

CASHIER/Shell
Alamo, Dairy, Ice, Deli, etc. Cashier position. Must have experience in all aspects of cashiering, including customer service and product knowledge. Please fax resume to: 925-460-0126. Attn: HR.

CASHIER/STOCK
P/T, 22-26 hrs/week. Cashier position. Must have experience in all aspects of cashiering, including customer service and product knowledge. Please fax resume to: 925-460-0126. Attn: HR.

CASHIERS - USA Gasline
We are seeking cashiers for a busy gas station. Must have experience in all aspects of cashiering, including customer service and product knowledge. Please fax resume to: 925-460-0126. Attn: HR.

CHILD CARE AIDE, F/T
We are seeking a child care aide for a busy center. Must have experience in all aspects of child care, including supervision and care of children. Please fax resume to: 925-460-0126. Attn: HR.

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Employment

CONSTRUCTION
Project Manager with at least 5 years of experience in commercial construction. Must have a degree in construction management and be able to manage a team. Please fax resume to: 925-460-0126. Attn: HR.

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Employment

COUNSELORS - Entry
Adv. bus. in-prison exp. in San Joaquin Co. Exp. w/ counseling. Fax resume to: 415-498-1912.

COUNSELOR/Vocational
Soc. Serv. agency. Exp. w/ counseling. Fax resume to: 415-498-1912.

CROSSING GUARDS
School P/T. Ant. Btwd. 10:00-11:00. Fax resume to: 415-498-1912.

CUSTOMER SERVICE
Retail. Exp. w/ customer service. Fax resume to: 415-498-1912.

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Employment

DATA ENTRY, Clerical
McCauley's Dept. Store-Lafayette. Reg'd. general office. Exp. 8-10 hrs/week. Fax resume to: 415-498-1912.

DATA ENTRY, Warehouse
McCauley's Dept. Store-Lafayette. Reg'd. general office. Exp. 8-10 hrs/week. Fax resume to: 415-498-1912.

DATA SPECIALIST: FT
Soc. Serv. agency. Exp. w/ counseling. Fax resume to: 415-498-1912.

DELIVERY TECHNICIAN
Deliver & instruct on med. equip. exp. heavy lifting. Drug test. Apply in person w/ resume. Fax resume to: 415-498-1912.

DEMONSTRATORS - Fun
Flex days. Exp. w/ demonstrations. Fax resume to: 415-498-1912.

DENTAL ASSISTANT
Orthodontic office. Exp. w/ dental assisting. Fax resume to: 415-498-1912.

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Employment

DISHWASHER
pos. open at K&L in Danville. P/T 5pm-9pm Sat. Wed. Please call 925-460-2800. Mon-Fri. 9am-5pm. Fax resume to: 925-460-0126. Attn: HR.

DISPATCHER
For 24-hr. plbg. co. nights & wknd work exp. req'd. Must have exp. in dispatching. Please fax resume to: 925-460-0126. Attn: HR.

DISTRIBUTION
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Employment

EDUCATION
Coaching Position - Cheerleading 1 Position Middle School 2004-2005 school year. Employee will be paid in 2 stipends of \$750 ea. This applicant must be a self-starter, able to work in a fast-paced environment. Our busi-ness is growing and we have an opening for a Class A driver. We have an opening for a Class A driver. We have an opening for a Class A driver. Please fax resume to: 925-460-0126. Attn: HR.

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CARPENTER SUPERVISOR
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LANDSCAPE Const.
Foreman & Laborers. **POSITION FILLED**
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brnwd. Valid IDL. Irrigation exp. Bilingual a must. 925-634-1211
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Landscaping Care Co. 4026 Pacheco Bl., Mtz. Se Habla Espanol
Web ID CC082956974

LANDSCAPE Maint. Foreman
Exp'd. Must speak biling. Cdt. & print. Pay DOE. 925-362-3178
Web ID CC082953844

LANDSCAPE Maint. Supv.
Irrigation Tech. 5 yrs exp 925-586-3568
Web ID CC0829549371

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Elder law atty. in sm. W.C. ofc. F/T exp. w/Word Perfect. Time Matters a+. Fax resume 925-947-1468
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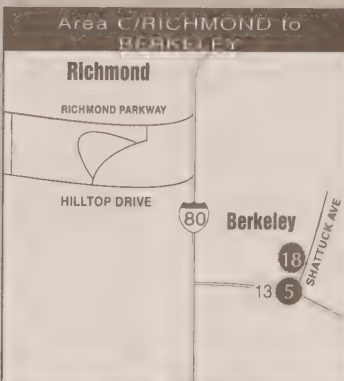
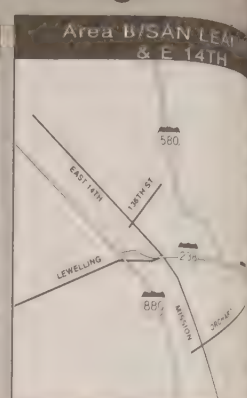
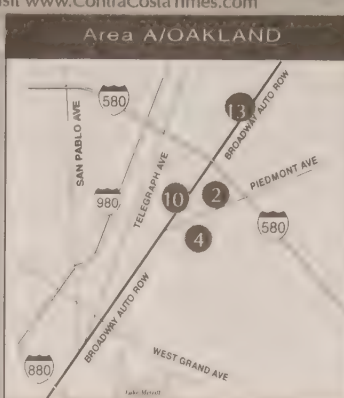
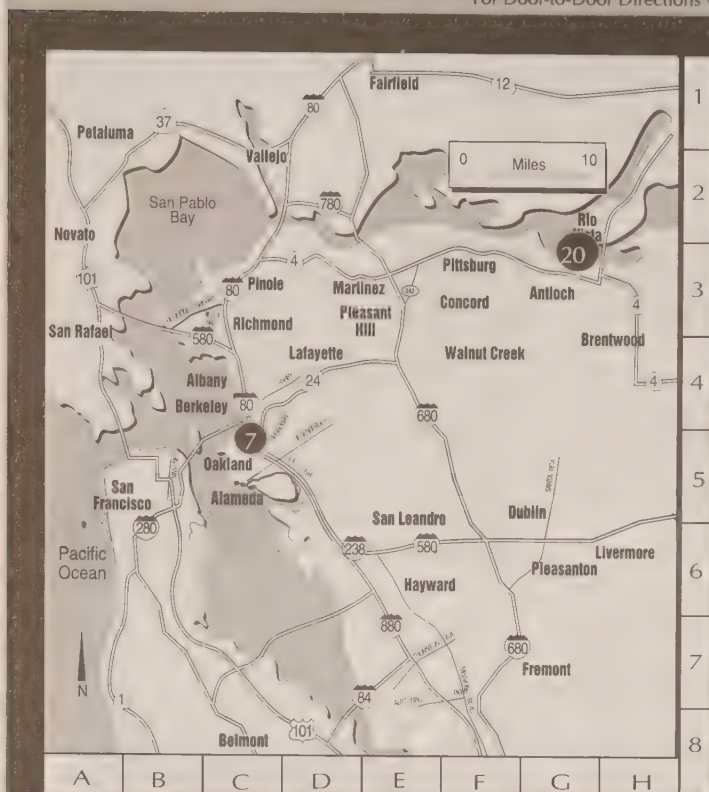
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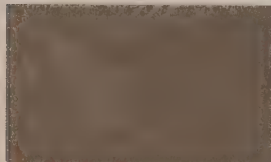
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CAARA
 Like most people, you
 like to update your dé-
 cor every five years, ac-
 cording to interior designer
 and May Gilliat. "It's good to
 have a five-year plan. I think
 it's refreshing," she says.
 When it's time to revitalize
 your decorating theme, what
 do you do? A new paint color
 is one thing. New window treat-
 ments? Perhaps some new ac-
 cessorials? Different throw pillows
 or a new floor?
 The cost, installation, and
 potential for sub-floor alter-
 cations often conspire to make
 the floor an option when
 the décor of a room.
 However, regardless of
 how you're interested in vinyl,
 wood or carpet, can suf-
 fer a level of anxiety be-
 cause they are typically viewed
 as permanent or semi-perma-
 nent," says Chip
 Gilliat, vice president, market-
 ing at Residential.
 However, there are flooring op-
 tions that don't break the bank
 and professional installation.
 The cost-effective floor-
 ing option is FiberFloor, which
 combines the personal-
 ized look of a room, and in some cases
 as the design anchor.
 The option is FiberFloor,
 which uses in-
 terlayer technology to combine
 vinyl flooring, lam-
 inating and carpet to deliver
 a look that is easy to install,
 clean, offers numerous de-
 signs and is cushiony and
 soft.
 FiberFloor consists of an engi-
 neered interlayer be-
 tween vinyl layers with a com-
 fort backing. The fiberglass
 core is flexible and bend-
 able, providing stability so

the flooring will not expand, con-
 tract, crack or curl. The comfort
 backing serves as a base for in-
 dentation resistance and reduces
 impact noise and sound trans-
 mission. The advanced fiberglass
 technology is engineered to lay
 flat and stay flat, facilitating Fiber-
 Floor's unique glueless installa-
 tion. Consumers literally only need
 to measure the room, cut the
 product and lay it in.

"Changing your flooring can
 give your room a completely dif-
 ferent look and feel," says Jane
 Parr-Whitehead, an interior de-
 signer in South Florida. "Among
 my clients, about one-third of them
 are ready to rip up their carpet or
 tile, but most feel they just have
 to work around what they have be-
 cause of the expense." FiberFloor
 gives homeowners the freedom to
 change their floor without break-
 ing the bank.

Gilliat advises people to de-
 velop their own style in their home
 decorating, just as they would in
 clothes. FiberFloor's first collec-
 tion, Personal Expressions, show-
 cases distinct decorating choices
 for every room in the home, of-
 fering looks that replicate every-
 thing from ceramic tile and wood
 to leather and sisal. The broad va-
 riety of options enables con-
 sumers to choose flooring suited
 to their own personal styles.

The "Dare to Dream" collec-
 tion, specifically developed for the
 youth set, includes whimsical and
 fashionable designs that adapt
 perfectly to the changing décor of
 children's rooms. Parents might
 consider the glow-in-the-dark
 starry night pattern, Blue Heaven,
 for the nursery or a toddler's
 room. A six-year-old might be
 more interested in the chalkboard
 pattern called "Graffiti Night
 Train," another glow-in-the-dark
 design that replicates drawings on



See FLOOR, Page 2

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BY GAILE ROBINSON
KNIGHT RIDER NEWSPAPERS

Walker plotted the individual gardens and the buildings that house the retail stores, restaurant

As much as Hougie wanted a Cao glass garden, Cao felt it was time to do something new. He wanted a sparkling ground, but with a different medium. The knitted fabric was made with 120 miles of monofilament in a period of three months by most of the able-bodied needle workers in a Vietnamese village. The undulating hills look like a flag that is blowing in the wind, yet they are solid; the sweater is so heavy it lies flat and unmoving, and it can be walked upon — or rolled on if the inner child calls for such

Cash died while Leader's garden was in midconstruction, and so to further honor the Man in Black, the garden designer placed a black refrigerator at the maze's exit and filled it with Southern comfort food such as creamed corn and chicken potpies. The

Walter Hood was quite taken with the detritus of the trees and scooped up piles of branches, leaves and bark. He used the materials to make beautiful fences, the branches woven to create a wattle fence, the bark strips stuffed into thin gabions (metal cages usually filled with dirt or rocks). The leaves he stapled in patterns to small screen fencing. The fences stand close to each other on a carpet of crushed leaves and small branches. Walking between the decorative walls and further breaking the leaves releases the pungent scent of the eucalyptus. Any of these fences would be

The weight of the ornaments, while slight, is enough to make some branches droop, giving the tree a comical, Dr. Seuss look. "I think it gets enough air and light," says Hougie. "It seems to be doing fine." The locals are already referring to Cornerstone Gardens

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The three other groupings, "Sunday Morning Jazz," "Wood is Good," and "Back to Nature" offer more traditional and sophisticated designs that are appropri-

ate for a variety of tastes. Wood and stone looks help create a warm, indulgent living space. Textured patterns provide elegant, classic feel to rooms, while natural colors bring comfort and warmth.

"What consumers love is its versatility and how it doesn't necessarily wear out over twenty years," Boudreau says. "With more flexible materials, the entire home can evolve with the family."

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ve tips to improve your home's value

MS
you among the thousands who are thinking about selling their current home or buying a "fixer-upper" home? Before you start spending money doing these are five things you should know.

of your home, but since maintenance is a necessary part of home ownership, don't expect a \$5,000 paint job to translate into \$5,000 more in home equity.

But do note that failing to maintain your property adequately will decrease its value by whatever it will cost to repair the damage or implement necessary maintenance procedures. Think of home maintenance improvements as a way of protecting your home's value from going down.

3. Cosmetic improvements neutrally effect a home's value. Jobs like stripping wallpaper or painting are cosmetic improvements that most homeowners can do themselves, making the per-

ception of their value seem less. Therefore, it makes more sense to do most cosmetic work yourself instead of paying someone else to do it.

4. Be aware of over-improving your home, especially if you plan to sell it within two to five years. Before you commit to a big project, such as installing a three-car garage or an in-ground pool, check to see if it's out of character for your neighborhood.

If your house is improved way beyond others in the neighborhood, you may have inadvertently placed it on the "odd" list, making it highly unlikely to increase its market value when it comes time to sell.

5. Keep up with home values in your neighborhood. Realtors use home sales information on comparable sales (comps) to put a value on a home. The best way to assess the value of yours is to look at home sales of properties that are similar to yours in your area. For example, if you know that 15 Hedge Lane is comparable to yours and it sold for \$325,000 with a new kitchen, you can get an idea of what the value of your home would be with a new kitchen. Comps give you the most accurate picture of what your home is worth.

Visit www.homepricecheck.com or www.domania.com to track home values in your neighborhood.



METRO CREATIVE SERVICES
LIFESTYLE IMPROVEMENTS to rooms such as a kitchen will likely increase your home's worth. Web sites like www.homepricecheck.com can help you track the value of your home.

craft artisans let the inner Muse speak

BY MARY DANIELS
CHICAGO TRIBUNE
CHICAGO — It's a fair guess that when a parent tells a child, "Why don't you get a real job?" The inner voice of the child is likely to be, "I want to be an artist."

For seven years, D'Imperio toiled as an art director for a Florida ad agency. "I was getting a little burned out. It was pretty high pressure," he says. For relief, he took a vacation to go to the renowned contemporary furniture exhibit, Salone Internazionale del Mobile in Milan.

"When I saw what was going on, it blew my mind," says D'Imperio, now 44 and based in Stony Run, Pa. "I decided, I need to do this. I went back and gave them two weeks' notice," he says.

He created some prototypes of furniture in fruit woods and a variety of lighting that resembled Sputniks and showed them at the International Contemporary Furniture Fair in Manhattan, and was on his way. Today, his work is shown at the American Craft Museum in New York.

For others, finding the path to their art took a little longer. For Josh Simpson, world-renowned glass artist from Shelburne Falls, Mass., and a 20-year veteran of the American Craft Exposition, it was a painful passage.

Yearning to be a doctor, he worked through high school at a mental hospital and at a school for severely retarded children.

Making a living
After graduating from Hamilton College in upstate New York in his early 20s, Simpson took a full-time job as an occupational therapist in Cross River, N.Y. He had taken pottery classes in school and loved it, but "could not fathom how to make a living as a potter."

"At that time, in the early 1970s, occupational therapy was basically doing a lot of handicraft kinds of

things," such as making macramé belts and wall hangings, he says. Simpson was grateful for the tiniest gains by patients, some of whom had been hospitalized for 20 years. But teaching and working in the occupational therapy department became frustrating, because he didn't have time to do his own work.

Then a patient who had been in his macramé class committed suicide by the belt she had woven in Simpson's class.

"Up until that time, I always felt, however infinitesimal, my interaction with patients had always been positive, had given them some momentary happiness," he says. "That was the first time, in a very strange way, that someone killed herself with a tool that I had given her."

As a result, "I took on a new degree of seriousness," he says. He gave up the real job to live in a tent on rented farmland in Vermont and turned to glass blowing, another love. Simpson is known the world over for his Planets, orbs of clear glass ranging from a few inches to more than a foot in diameter, their interiors filled with elements that resemble mountains, glaciers, oceans, continents and reefs of coral.

His work has been exhibited in the Corning Museum of Glass in Corning, N. Y., the White House in Washington, D.C., and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York.

Today, Simpson's life is spent "in the pursuit of my own vision of what is beautiful."

The same can be said for Clifford Lee.

Once a neurosurgeon at Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Cen-

ter in Hershey, Pa., Lee is now an internationally renowned ceramist.

Hands that once saved lives

The hands that once saved lives by repairing injured brains now create exquisite porcelain pottery rivaling that of the ancient Chinese.

The stress of red tape, increased costs, and, above all, "the inability to have a one-to-one relationship with my patients," led Lee to take a sabbatical and try throwing pots as occupational therapy. He returned to his surgical career but eventually decided to leave for good.

Lee's forms are Asian-inspired but with his own stamp. His peach and lotus vases in blue-green celadon, a glaze that took many years of experimentation to achieve, are outstanding. He is the only contemporary ceramist in the world working in true Imperial yellow, a color once reserved for the pleasure of Chinese emperors.

"The last imperial potter died with the secret of how to make (the yellow glaze)," Lee says. All he will reveal is "a few degrees' difference in the firing makes the yellow change," which he learned through experimentation and research and "driving myself crazy over 17 years."

Lee hand-carves the exterior of his vases with a blade and says the process is similar to "looking into a brain." He said he fashions the hair-thin bristles on a thorny root entwining a lotus vase by "surgical implant, one by one."

But the transformation from neurosurgeon to ceramist was difficult. He credits his wife, Holly, a goldsmith who also will be attending the American Craft Exposition, with helping him through the rough times.

Today, he creates for an international market. One of his pots is in

the White House Collection and he will have another in the Clinton Library in Arkansas. This provides him with validation. "People who knew me as a neurosurgeon all thought I was nuts because of my change of career. I want to prove to them I made the right choice," he says.

Susan Levi-Goerlich, like Lee, walked away from a professional career, following her heart in more ways than one. A former attorney, she once laid down the law. Now she lays down layer after layer of cotton, rayon, silk and wool yarns to create painterly landscapes on a 30-year-old Kenmore household sewing machine. She created her first stitched picture, a very "primitive" one, in 1984 while completing her law degree studies at George Washington University.

"In between Torts and Contract classes, I found time to take a pottery class," says Levi-Goerlich, who lives in Columbia, Md.

Admitted to the Maryland bar in 1985, she practiced for a while, but then moved to Germany and lived there for 2½ years. Since she could not practice law in Germany, she started doing the stitch pictures again, selling them at an outdoor market in Munich. Her work today — as Stitched Impressions — is more refined, she says, and consists primarily of garden imagery.

No more 9-to-5

And then there are Joseph and Georgia Pozycinski.

The arts were "the furthest thing from our minds," says Joseph Pozycinski, of Sparta, Mo. Starting out, they both took the corporate route, but for the last 20 years have supported themselves with their stunning bronze furniture and objects.

They work as a team; he does the large forms, which may be a box or

piece of furniture, and Georgia creates the original castings for the figurative animals for the pieces.

Native Chicagoans, the Pozycinskis met in high school in Des Plaines and in 1969 graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

An electrical engineer, Joseph Pozycinski worked on computer control telephone systems for nine years. His wife, a trained zoologist, worked in medical technology at Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, Ill.

In 1975, an economic turnaround led them to think: "Wouldn't it be fun to chuck it?" he says. They moved to a southwestern Missouri farm, where at first they ran a commercial greenhouse.

Apart from shows like ACE, their work is now featured on www.guild.com, an art and fine crafts Web site. He says their new life "seems pretty natural for us. You can do more, you can do less, you can do whatever you want."

Do any of the artisans miss their former "real" jobs? "No. Never. No way," D'Imperio says of his former art directing career. "I mean, always try to do what you want to do, but you have to support yourself until it supports you."

Larry Fielder, a New Mexican mixed-media artist who is participating in the show, never looks back.

He was an architect but was drafted to serve in the Vietnam War. "When they spit me back out again in the early '70s, there was no architectural work to be had. I thought I might as well work with my hands. What I loved about architecture was working with space and objects."

"My parents still wish I had a real job," he adds. "I'm 57 now. I think they've given up."

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Decorative trim enhances outdoor living

When it comes to enhancing their home's exterior, homeowners are putting their best face backward. Backyards have become the newest focal point of the home, meeting a range of needs from entertaining to recreation and personal relaxation.

Improved outdoor spaces serve as a canvas for personal expression on a home. Features like ponds, pools, fountains, fireplaces, grilling centers and hot tubs have become the hallmark of today's well-appointed yard.

It's no wonder that homeowners are dressing up the back of their home with architectural details formerly reserved for the front. Features such as shutters, window headers, door surrounds and dentil trim give residents and guests an aesthetically pleasing perspective from all vantage points.

According to Roan DelVero of Mid-America Building Products, decorative exterior trim use is growing as people strive to distinguish their home from their neighbors'. "Especially in newer developments with similar-style homes, using color with trim can make one house distinct from another," he says.

Decorative exterior trim products are available in a range of colors, styles and sizes. Popular options in decorative exterior trim include:

Windows

At one time, shutters served two primary functional roles — to provide security and reduce the effects of inclement weather. Today, shutters have a primarily decorative role. Different styles convey contemporary, traditional or rustic feels. Want to add a splash of color?

Backyards have become the newest focal point of the home, meeting a range of needs from entertaining to recreation and personal relaxation.

Shutters can help do that also. Shutters can match house trim, add a complementary color or go wild

with a paintable surface. For that final architectural detail, finish off windows with window headers or sunbursts. Mid-America offers a range of colors to match shutters or complement trim or siding.

Doors

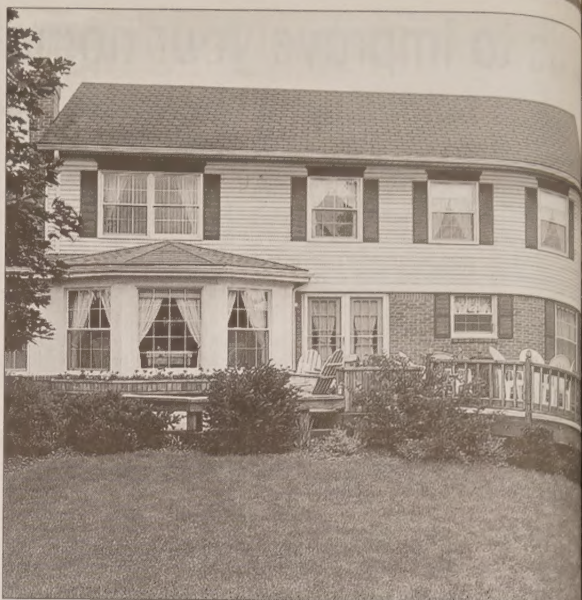
The door to the backyard may be the most-used entrance. That's why it should look as warm and welcoming as the front door. If the door to the deck or patio looks like an afterthought, consider a door surround.

A door surround "frames" a door, with pilasters that run vertically on each side and a header that runs horizontally along the top of the door.

Walls

Custom opportunities don't stop with windows and doors. Dentil trim adds architectural interest to rooflines. Square-tooth or scalloped profiles are among the most popular options.

Mid-America's products are available through local remodeling contractors and builders. For more information on Mid-America Building Products, visit www.midamerica-building.com.



AS BACKYARDS BECOME a focal point for relaxing and entertaining, homeowners are adding shutters, headers and other exterior decorative trim products.

Keep your crawl space dry

BY KATHY VAN MULLEKOM

DAILY PRESS

NEWPORT NEWS, Va. — What happens under your house is as important as what goes on inside it.

Especially when it comes to moisture control.

Your crawl space — that dark, sometimes damp and creepy-feeling area formed by your foundation blocks — contributes significantly to the health, safety and value of your home.

Keeping the crawl space area dry is the key to avoiding damaging wood rot, mold growth and termites.

What's the solution to keeping your crawl space dry?

There is no one simple solution, when you talk to insulation and moisture-control experts.

"Every house is different, it depends on the soil," says Chris Brown with Four Seasons Insulation in Gloucester, Va.

"You have to look at the house and determine what you need."

There are some simple steps you can take to guard against groundwater moving into your crawl space.

First, get gutters on your house and keep them clean. Opt for the extra large gutters and downspouts, which are better at catching heavy downpours, particularly on steep roofs. Run underground drains for your downspouts, taking water away from the house so it empties into a spot where it drains quickly. But, be a good neighbor and keep that extra water from running into the yard next to you.

Make sure soil around your house is graded away from your foundation. The guideline is 6 inches of slope for every 10 feet. Consider creating a gravelled swale at your side property lines to take care of some of that runoff water. Trench down about 8 to 12 inches, fill with 6 to 8 inches of gravel and top fill with soil. This

area gives water an immediate place to drop and filter into the surrounding soil — it's a simplified French drain that can be used wherever water tends to stand.

Under your house, check to see if any ductwork there is insulated. If not, get it wrapped to prevent air leaks and condensation; if you are getting new ductwork, consider the kind with insulation already installed.

Cover your crawl space dirt floor with a minimum 6-mil poly vapor barrier, overlapping all seams about one foot. Run the plastic to the edges of the cinderblock walls, according to moisture-control experts.

Outdoors, check to see if water coming from the drain line on your air-conditioning unit is dripping toward your foundation. If it is, use plastic plumbing pipe to extend and redirect that line so water flows away from the foundation.

Make sure your irrigation system is not causing your ground to become too saturated.

Keep shrubs at least 3 to 5 feet away from your house so you get good air circulation around the perimeter of your structure. Eliminating too much shade over your home's roof can also help.

If you still have too much moisture in your crawl space, you need to take extra precautions. Check with your building codes office about any regulations that may govern what you want to do, and hire a licensed electrician for any wiring you need.

For years, humidity- or time-controlled fans placed under a vented house have been the recommended way to help dry a too-wet crawl space. Now, experts say these fans draw in moist, humid air, possibly adding to the problem.

A fan, however, may be the route some homeowners choose to take. A simple box fan can be purchased economically to stimulate air cir-

ulation under a crawl space, but make sure its electrical source is suitable for that application.

Specialized companies such as Crawl Space Door Systems in Virginia Beach, Va., offer no-rust PVC plastic-framed fans that range in size from 10 to 24 inches, making them conducive to all types of crawl-space sizes. Each fan is constructed so it sits on a side pedestal to keep it from toppling.

In addition, the company provides PVC-plastic foundation access doors with screens or fans and above/below ground vents.

There are, however, newer methods that may give you better results.

One such method is called the "conditioned crawl space." Essentially, you close up the crawl space by sealing the foundation vents with blocks of foam or clear acrylic cut to fit those spaces. Foam blocks, about 2 inches thick, are glued onto the interior sides of the cinderblock walls. Heavy 6-mil plastic is placed 100 percent over the dirt floor and up the wall a few inches.

Steve Tetraault of Insulpro home insulation services in Williamsburg and Robert Criner of Criner Construction in Yorktown both recommend conditioned crawl spaces.

"It's the only way to go," says Tetraault.

His new home is done just that way. He put 6-mil poly over the ground, sprayed 2-inch-thick polyurethane foam on the 5-foot-high walls and put no vents in the

foundation.

Once you seal up the crawl space, you can go one step further — use a dehumidifier to remove any moisture, which is the method Criner prefers.

"Then you know the moisture is gone," he says.

Or, you can actually heat and cool the area with a heat duct coming from your main system. Either way, the cost is nominal, according to people who advocate it.

You also can seal up your foundation and equip it with a fan that sucks in dry air from the home's living space. Tetraault does these jobs, using special radon fans that continually draw crawl-space air to the outdoors.

Homeowners in flood zones can seal their foundation vents differently, using the FEMA-compliant FloodVent by Smart Vent Inc. The foam-insulated vent remains closed until the floodwater raises its "float" mechanism, allowing the vent to open so water enters and exits.

The company also sells an automatic foundation vent that opens when it's hot and closes when it's cold; it, too, reacts to floodwater. Each U.S.-made, no-rust stainless steel vent costs \$180 and provides coverage for 200 square feet of enclosed area.

If you choose to vent your crawl space and want to bypass fans, you can use interior drain systems provided by companies such as B-Dry Waterproofing and Foundation Repair, which operates with 45 locations in 23 states. Es-

entially, the systems are French drains installed around the inside perimeter of your foundation. The drains empty by natural gravity or with a sump pump if the grade of your soil is not sufficient.

"I've seen some tremendous results with these drains," says Mike Hall, a moisture-control specialist with Colonial Exterminating Co. in Newport News, Va.

Before jumping to any of these solutions, experts recommend you first think the problem through and try the obvious solutions first.

If you get stumped, look for a good consultant.

But, never ignore excessive dampness in your house, they say.

Moisture matters

If you get mold, wood rot or wood-destroying pests in the crawl space of your home, there are some products that can be used to improve the problem, but you should first consult with a pest and moisture specialist.

Products such as Armor-Guard, Bora-Care and Termdor can be used, but should be done so by professionals who take precautions such as wearing protective gear.

Some of these products also can be used to treat new wood for construction.

Find help

Here are some online sources and organizations to contact about moisture problems in your home:

- Energy and Building Association's online site features consumer and professional sources; just click on "sources" button. www.eba.org

- Insulation Facts Dept. of Energy www.oem.gov/insulation/facts_07.html

- "A Brief Guide to Culture and Your Home" Environmental Protection Agency www.epa.gov/culture

- Smart Vent www.smartvent.com 877-441-8368

- National Association of Builders at www.nab.org

- Crawl Space Doctor Virginia Beach at www.crawlspacedoctor.com or toll free

- B-Dry Waterproofing and Foundation Repair at www.bdry.com call toll free 800-321-1881

For additional resources under "fire and water restoration" visit www.fireandwater.com "engineers" and "contractors" in the Yellow Pages phone book.

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Decorating, everything old is new again

With 21st century homes outfitted with the latest in technology, from ultra-fast computers and electronic labor-saving devices — you may come as a surprise that among the most popular styles in decorating are ... the 18th and 19th centuries.

The allure of furnishings and decorative elements inspired by previous eras has never been more pervasive. Whether it's 1930s-influenced Art Deco, plush Victorian or Neoclassical, decorating homes with an eye to styles of past eras has great appeal.

The range of decorating options, reflective of past eras can vary in many directions, according to design experts at Stroheim & Romann, the high-end resource for decorative fabrics, wallpapers and draperies. Here are their tips for bringing the richness of the past to your home:

Beautiful antique furniture accessories can now be had at all price ranges. Everywhere there are antique shops and flea markets offering every-

thing from 18th century to mid-century modern pieces.

■ A more practical option for many is to choose furnishings that are either direct reproductions of important antique styles or those freely inspired by them. Many of the pieces in retail stores and showrooms today reflect previous periods, and, in some cases, it may take an expert to determine if it is a true antique or a good reproduction.

■ Some of today's loveliest fabrics are inspired by vintage looks. Stroheim & Romann, for example, adapts antique patterns to create new fabrics, such as its Brocade III collection, which reflects opulent fabrics from the 18th and 19th centuries. In addition, its Chinoiserie, Manor and Provence collections also recreate period textiles.

■ Besides brocades, other fabrics that reflect the past include damasks, velvets, moires, tapestries, silks, embroideries, sheers, paisleys and floral prints. Using these fabrics instantly imparts a timeless look.

■ Architectural elements bring a historical dimension to a room.

If your home is devoid of these details, they can be added as moldings, fireplace mantels, decorative woodwork, wainscoting, or ceiling beams.

■ Choose accessories that complement your period style. Whether antique or brand new, lamps and chandeliers, vases, picture frames and artwork, clocks, pillows, and rugs can create a vintage mood.

Stroheim & Romann's decorative drapery hardware, for example, includes adaptations of 19th century styles in gilt, wood or brass.

■ Keep in mind that certain things have improved considerably since the 18th or 19th centuries, and sometimes modern reproductions are preferable to antiques.

For example, queen- and king-sized beds did not exist then, nor did coffee tables. Upholstered furniture is far more comfortable now. Lighting choices are much broader, including subtle mood lighting, versatile dimmers and strong reading lights.

■ Some of the most interesting

rooms in the past had beautiful fabric-upholstered walls or wallpaper, a look that can readily be achieved today.

Stroheim & Romann offers wallpaper collections, such as its Venetian, Arts & Crafts and Distinctive Damasks, that will bring the grandeur of the past to the most modern home.

Stroheim & Romann fabrics and wallpapers are available from interior designers and design showrooms. For more information, call 718-706-7000 or visit the company's Web site at www.stroheim.com.



METRO CREATIVE SERVICES

IS IT OLD OR NEW? This living room has period architectural details that provide a lovely background to new reproduction furniture and Aubusson-style rug inspired by 18th century France. Stroheim & Romann's brocade fabric, Les Amour des Fleurs, is on the sofa, and Bellagio Silk Taffeta is on the draperies.

Colorful exteriors express individuality and sometimes spark controversy

BY STACY DOWNS
NIGHT ROYAL NEWSPAPERS

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Tired of a gray house among a sea of other gray houses, Debra Cullom painted her family's Leach, Kan., home pink.

"It was fun, friendly and loving, and we wanted our house to show that," she says. "It was so boring and bland before."

Neighbors are red hot about new paint jobs and are circulating a petition to demand a change. The association members are debating the color choice.

We have no list of approved or non-listed colors," says Webb, an at-large director of the neighborhood association. However, the board's position is the paint color isn't in harmony and conformity with the neighborhood.

Meanwhile, colorful exteriors are popping up in other young subdivisions where neutral hues have the norm. Paint manufacturer is selling lots of butter yellow, green and light blue exterior along with the standard taupe Depot. Large, newer houses are being repainted in un-colors including peach, purple and pink.

John Crowley, who painted the home, says people are coming to strive for more personality in their homes.

"They're tired of redundancy," says Crowley, owner of WallWorks Inc., a paint and wallpaper company in Kansas City, Mo. "The entire neighborhood of beige and gray look like something out of a movie — you sometimes walk them apart. They almost seem like homes."

As an expression

Colorful paint colors reflect a new attitude, says Rick Snyder, professor of clinical psychology at the University of Kansas. Some want a change of sameness, but the need

for uniqueness is even greater.

"People who want difference have made tremendous contributions to our society by invention and new ways of doing things. We owe quite a debt to them," he says.

But people who want to always fit in feel that uniqueness is a threat to the way they want the world. "At some point someone who painted a house in an earth tone," Snyder says, "was considered different."

Exterior paint preferences are constantly changing, says Kansas City paint consultant Paul Helmer. White was the preferred color in America until synthetic dyes made a rainbow of colors possible during the late 1800s. Then houses went back to classic white when the myriad Victorian palette was considered garish.

House colors tend to coordinate with the climate and landscape, Helmer says. Sunny places, such as Mexico and countries along the Mediterranean Sea, are usually painted bright colors because they bleach in the sun anyway. Immigrants have taken their native colors and created distinct neighborhoods in the United States.

During wars involving American forces, Helmer says, houses were historically painted in gray tones that matched the somber mood of society. But in San Francisco during the Vietnam War, they were painted vividly as a source of self-expression to enliven the spirit. So the current trend toward more colorful exteriors could be spurred on, Helmer says, by the war in Iraq.

Difference of opinion

Debra Cullom drove around her area when she was considering a new paint color. She grew encouraged as she spotted houses in peach and lavender shades.

She lugged home quarts of "oops" paint, the colors people have returned. She tested yellow, orchid, turquoise and green on the

back of the house. She and her husband, John, a lawyer, checked home association guidelines and talked to neighbors who are board members about possible restrictions.

"We were told just as long as there weren't any polka dots or stripes," Cullom says, recalling a striped home nearby that was the talk of the town before it was repainted. Some cities have property laws that stipulate only one paint color can be used for the main part of the house to discourage those situations.

The Culloms and their three children chose a dusty pink they thought would look Mediterranean with their stucco. It turned out brighter than they wanted — somewhere between salmon and Pepto-Bismol. That's when it first caught neighbors' attention.

Recently they repainted the house in a softer rosy shade called Tuscan Pink. Some neighbors like it; others still aren't happy.

"We're going to keep it," John Cullom says. "We think it looks nice."

During the controversy Debra Cullom finds validation and comfort from a passage in a letter from Philadelphia architect Samuel Sloan she found online. Although the quote dates to the 1850s, she finds it timely: "On entering some of our villages, the only color which meets the eye is white. Everything is white: the houses, the fences, the stables, the kennels, and sometimes even the trees cannot escape, but get a coat of white wash."

Vivid color is becoming a bigger part of our daily lives, according to Margie Kuhn, a design lecturer at the University of Kansas. She says everyday objects such as envelopes have shifted from plain white to a rainbow of colors.

Even more notably, people are becoming more daring with color inside their houses. So many peo-

ple have a red room these days; some are even going for orange or lime green. So it makes sense, Kuhn says, that people have become adventuresome with exterior colors as well.

Besides a neighbor's quip about brightness, Donna Oberstein hasn't heard much reaction to her family's vibrant apricot house in Overland Park, Kan. The warm tone, painted this year, reminds her of the Southwest. And because older neighborhoods contain a variety of exterior colors, her house's new color makes her feel like she's part of a long-established area.

"The first day or two I was shocked by how colorful it was," she says. "But I like it and my husband likes it — he's always moaned about how unimaginative the prevalent beige is."

Kay Wegner lives in a violet home in a subdivision near the Culloms. She considers the grape-candy color a natural, tasteful fit for her Southern-style home. But people definitely take notice, considering it a landmark when they give directions.

"We've never heard anything negative from the neighbors," Wegner says. "And I don't think they would hesitate to tell us."

However, Wegner thinks there

should be restrictions on paint colors: "Who would want to live next to a salmon pink or orange house?"

The impact of color

However, if people want a paint color that's dramatically different from the rest of the neighborhood, Helmer recommends playing it safe. He suggests toning down bolder hues with gray.

"You can go a little different, but you don't want to stand out like a sore thumb," he advises. "You can be more daring as more colors start to get salt and peppered through the neighborhood."

Webb, the homes association board member in the Culloms' subdivision, says limiting house colors keeps the neighborhood stable. "Individuality can be expressed within confines," he says. "We want to preserve the resale value of the homes."

Sharon Sigman, a real estate agent with Keller Williams in Prairie Village, Kan., says paint colors don't always make a difference. Some-

one probably would pay the asking price for a beautiful home that happens to be next to a pink one. However, it might be hard to sell a home that's painted in an unusual color.

For now, Debra Cullom says the family has no plans to move or to change the paint color. She hopes people living in neutral-hued neighborhoods will show more individuality.

"I think it would be so beautiful," she says, "to see blue, purple and peach houses lining our street."

Changing colors

Check with homeowners' association about restrictions.

Buy small cans of paint — about \$7.50 to \$11 per quart — to test colors on the back of the house to decide what you like.

Talk with neighbors about what you're considering.

Still stumped? Hire a paint consultant (can cost more than \$200) to help select colors and create an artist rendering.

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Integrating a cutting garden into a regular garden keeps fresh flowers in your home

BY DENISE COWIE
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

PHILADELPHIA — A class in floral arrangement looked like an easy "A" to Doug Croft when he was wrapping up his horticultural studies at Virginia Tech.

"I thought it wouldn't tax me too much," he recalled recently, as he led a group of aspiring floral designers through the gardens at Chanticleer in Wayne, N.J.

Though he didn't expect that class to have any impact on his new career, it turned out to be one of the most valuable.

"The elements of design and the principles of design you learn in floral arranging can be applied to designing a garden, too," he said. And to get the best out of flowers in the garden and the vase, it helps to know a thing or two about plants and their maintenance.

Not all flowers work well as cut flowers, Croft told participants in "The Arranger's Garden," a class sponsored by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. The class, which sold out so fast it had to be repeated a second evening, explored the joys of using your own cut flowers in floral arrangements.

That's where the concept of a cutting garden comes in — even if you think you don't have space for one.

"The philosophy used to be that the cutting garden should be on the 'back nine,'" Croft said. "The idea was that people didn't want to put all that effort into a garden and then cut the flowers," so they kept it separate.

But few people today have the luxury of having a cutting garden away out of sight, which means they are gradually disappearing.

"I think there has been a pretty steady decline" in the number of dedicated cutting gardens over the last 20 or 30 years, said David Ellis, director of communications for the Virginia-based American Horticultural Society, because today's homeowners have less time and space.

But people still want to be able to pick flowers from their own gardens. "There is a feeling of satisfaction you can get from being able to run out on short notice and gather up ... flowers for your own house, or to take to somebody else's house," Ellis said.

Croft suggests integrating a cutting garden into the regular garden by planting sweeps of some perennials that can be judiciously thinned and annuals that will bloom again after cutting, and by using garden maintenance to harvest material that can be used for arrangements.

Prunings from a Hydrangea paniculata "Unique," for instance, became part of a fireplace arrangement in the gallery at Chanticleer last week. Or you might use the grasslike trimmings from amsonia when you whack it back by two-thirds after it flowers, or the flower stalks of hosta that are mainly a textural statement in the landscape, or

"I am trying to create a combination of flowers, foliage, and container that is pleasing to the eye and accomplishes a sense of balance and harmony throughout."

— Doug Croft, Chanticleer Gardens

the purple foliage of Physocarpus opulifolius "Diablo," which may be in need of a trim by late summer.

For the last four years, Croft has been in charge of Chanticleer's cutting garden, which supplies most of the flowers for the displays created by a handful of staff horticulturists for the garden's public spaces. (Savvy visitors make a point of visiting the rest rooms to check out the imaginative flower arrangements, which feature seasonal fresh flowers.)

"It was always important that the cut-flower garden be aesthetically appealing," Croft said, "but the flowers growing in it weren't always suitable for arrangements." That has changed under the leadership of R. William Thomas, who took over as director of the garden last year.

Now, Croft said, he is designing the garden in a more formal manner, using rows and blocks, and all the flowers growing in it have to be useful as cut flowers.

What does that mean? They have to be flowers that don't wilt easily, so they'll have a long vase life, and they have to have strong, long stems.

It means no more growing morning glories on the garden's lovely rustic trellises, for example, because their blossoms are fleeting. Instead, Croft is planting clematis and unusual annual vines such as the aromatic Vigna caraccalla, or snail flower.

"Those are the biggest criteria," Croft said, but there are also texture, color, and fragrance, "which is not essential, but it certainly does make an arrangement more enjoyable."

To make sure Chanticleer stays on the cutting edge, Croft joined the Association of Specialty Cut Flower Growers, an industry group that conducts growing trials through North Carolina State University, to see how different species and cultivars perform as cut flowers.

This year, the cutting garden at Chanticleer became a trial garden, giving Croft access to the newest and best — such as Lobelia speciosa "Fan Blue," a floriferous new cultivar he used in last week's design class.

So what's growing in the cutting garden? Everything from A (astilbe) to Z (zinnias), including such difficult-to-grow charmers as double lisianthus and workhorses like Helianthus x multiflorus "Flore Pleno," a sturdy double yellow sunflower that usually doesn't need staking, though the plant is more than six feet tall.

This season, there's also a row of asparagus, which provides great

greenery for floral displays (and is also doing a good job of attracting Japanese beetles away from the dahlias).

"Don't just think of ferns when you're looking for greenery," Croft told the class, suggesting holly, azalea, yew, helleborus, coleus and hosta as alternative sources. And don't always go with the obvious. If you've trimmed greenery from your Magnolia virginiana, for instance, you can turn it around to feature the leaves' silvery underside in your arrangement.

Croft doesn't stop at the cutting garden when he's looking for design inspiration. The neighboring vegetable garden, also in his charge, provided an entire arrangement for last week's class: leaves from two kale varieties; rosemary; purple ornamental peppers; rhubarb stalks; and red okra pods, which echoed the color of the rhubarb.

"Some people say that's the best use ever for okra," joked fellow staffer Laura Aiken. Okra is actually in the hibiscus family, Croft added, but its pretty yellow flowers would close up quickly if cut.

Color is all many gardeners think of when they choose flowers for an arrangement. But that's just one factor. How about form, texture and line?

Let your structure guide you, urged Croft. Consider the shape of the arrangement you have in mind, its function, and where it might be placed — whether it's for the table, where guests will see all around it but need to see one another over it, or for the foyer, where they might see just the front. And when you begin creating your design, take your cue from the garden.

"I'm trying to re-create the beauty of what's in the garden, but on a smaller scale," Croft said. "I am trying to create a combination of flowers, foliage, and container that is pleasing to the eye and accomplishes a sense of balance and harmony throughout."

I try to do this by combining different plant materials that work well

together, and placing them such that the arrangement feels sturdy and each element can be appreciated in its own right and as a whole."

The result doesn't have to be complex.

Croft told the class of a dinner party he once planned, starting his own floral arrangement in a prized old family vase. When he set it on the table, however, water leaked everywhere — the vase was cracked.

After a frenzied search for an alternative container, Croft settled for a shallow bowl filled with water. He cut the heads off some flowers, floated them in the bowl, and added a candle.

"Everybody loved it," he said.

Tips from flower arranger Doug Croft

■ If you use floral foam such as Oasis, soak it in a bucket to absorb water before use. Putting it under a tap can create air pockets that can deprive stems of water.

■ Cut stems on an angle for better water uptake.

■ Make sure stems stay in contact with saturated Oasis. Pulling a flower up even a little after it's inserted leaves the stem in an air pocket. Instead, remove the flower and reinsert it.

■ To hide stems (or Oasis) in a glass vase, line the vase with a large leaf from canna, hosta or banana plants. This can add color and texture to your arrangement.

■ Strip all foliage from flower stems. Left on, foliage can steal water from flowers, or decay.

■ To encourage longer vase life, make a conditioning solution of one part aspirin and one part sugar (or lime soda) to five parts water.

■ Cut the heads off flowers that would be too top heavy for upright arrangements and float them in a bowl of water for an instant display.

Making the cut

All plants aren't equal when choosing what to grow in a "cut flower garden." Chanticleer's Doug Croft suggests:

- Hydrangea
- Achillea
- Antirrhinum
- Ageratum
- Iris
- Rudbeckia
- Dahlia
- Gladiolus
- Zinnia
- Chrysanthemum

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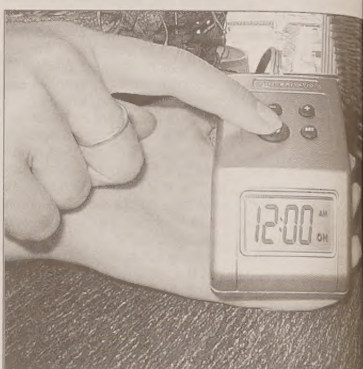
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Home security tips

According to home protection experts, the following are additional tips to help prevent home intrusions:

1. Secure and lock all doors and windows. Burglars are lazy, and they won't move onto the next entry if they can't easily get in.
2. Add alarms to your home. Loud sounds of an alarm can deter burglars. Installing a gated alarm system provides extra protection.
3. Do not give out your key to anyone. People who have your key are more likely to use it than you are.
4. Ask a trustworthy neighbor to check on your home. You can pick up newspapers, keep up the appearance of your home.
5. Inform the police. Let them know you are away and that you will be out of town. The authorities will keep an eye on your home.

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